The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Information Bulletin

Vol. 58, No. 6 June 1999

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL
2000
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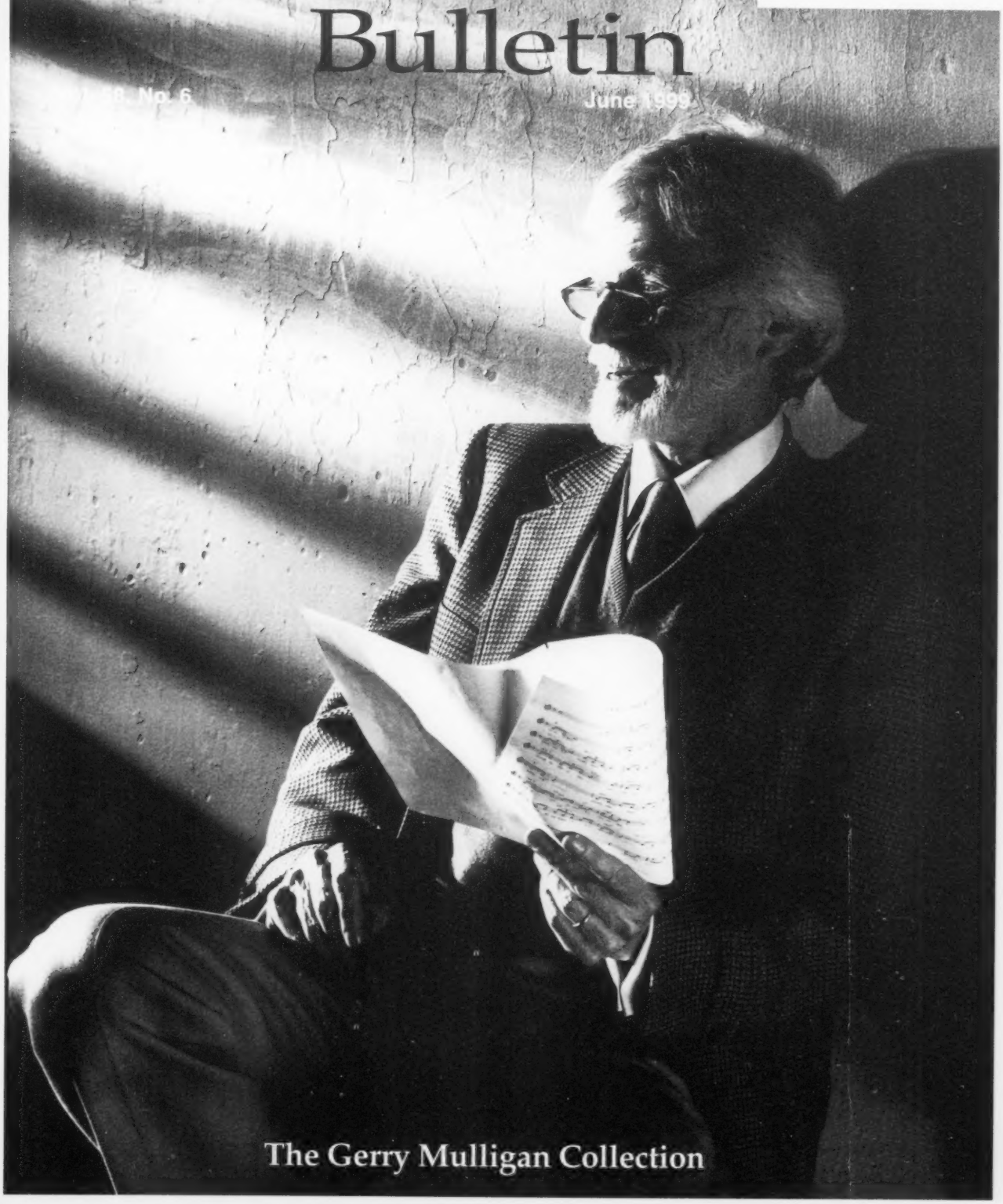

The Gerry Mulligan Collection

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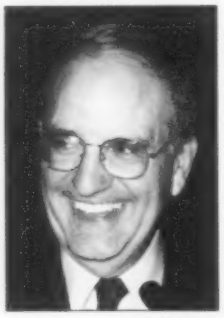
JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



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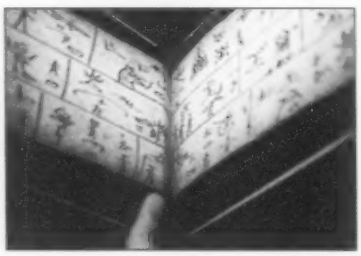
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On the Cover: Jazz great Gerry Mulligan, whose papers and effects comprise the Library's latest special collection. *Photograph by Kenny Rogers*

Cover Story: A new exhibition space devoted to the Gerry Mulligan Collection has opened in the Library's Music Division foyer. 136

New Frontiers: A symposium on developments in knowledge over the past century — and looking toward the new millennium — is the first in a bicentennial series. 119

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Latest from the Law Library: George Mitchell received the 1999 Wickersham Award from the Friends of the Law Library; Law Day was observed May 3; and a new initiative to preserve digital legal sources was announced. 126

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Asian Pacific American Heritage: An educational activist calls for aid to rural Chinese schools; and the first Chinese-American U.S. representative keynotes the Library's celebration of Asian heritage. 142

Building a Nation of Readers: Fourth- and fifth-graders attended a program of historical readings and presentations at the Library. 144

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The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* (ISSN 0041-7904) is issued monthly by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available on the World Wide Web at www.loc.gov/today.

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Production

'Frontiers of the Mind'

Scholars Speculate on the Next Century

This month, the Library will hold its first Bicentennial symposium when distinguished scholars summarize significant developments in the past century in approximately 24 fields of knowledge and speculate on what will be the most important developments in these fields in the 21st century.

The symposium, "Frontiers of the Mind in the Twenty-First Century," is open to the public. It is supported by the American Academy of Achievement and the Heinz Family Philanthropies and celebrates the Library of Congress's 200th anniversary on April 24, 2000 (**www.loc.gov/bicentennial**).

The conference is supported by the American Academy of Achievement and the Heinz Family Philanthropies and is the first in a series of symposia celebrating the Library's 200th anniversary on April 24, 2000.

Among the invited presenters and commentators are six Nobel laureates, the Astronomer Royal of Great Britain and the directors of major academic and research organizations throughout the world.

Participants have been asked to prepare a short paper that will present, for nonspecialists, the critical discoveries of the 20th century and suggest which lines of inquiry may be especially promising or what new conceptual or applied breakthroughs might be expected in the decades ahead. The papers will be circulated in advance, with the main points summarized by the author at the symposium and discussed by a commentator and members of the audience.

On the final day, participants will join approximately 500 high school honor students selected by the American Academy of Achievement to continue discussions.

Following is a tentative schedule for "Frontiers of the Mind in the Twenty-First Century." All sessions will be held in the Coolidge Auditorium in the Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First St. S.E. ◆

Librarian of Congress to Address ALA Attendees in New Orleans

Dr. Billington will address attendees of the American Library Association Annual Conference in New Orleans on June 26 during the Opening General Session, which begins at 5:30 p.m. in Hall F of the New Orleans Convention Center. His remarks will precede those of Colin Powell, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Librarian will focus on the Library of Congress's Bicentennial in 2000, which is planned as a celebration of all libraries. He will note that the joint ALA-Library of Congress Tip Sheet and Bicentennial Toolkit will be available at the entrance to Hall F and at the Library's exhibit booth, No. 1346, on the convention floor. The Toolkit is designed to accompany the Tip Sheet and is filled with materials to help libraries nationwide join in the Library's Bicentennial (**www.loc.gov/bicentennial**). ALA attendees are encouraged to pick up these materials during the conference.

Dr. Billington will also recognize the winners of the third and final round of the Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Program. The award, made possible by a $2 million gift to the Library from Ameritech, has been given to 33 institutions to digitize their important American historical materials and make them part of American Memory, the Library of Congress Web site available at **www.loc.gov**. Some of the winners from previous competitions have already completed their projects and placed them on-line. ◆

Preliminary Schedule for "Frontiers of the Mind" June 15-17, 1999

Tuesday, June 15

Welcome and Introduction: 9:00 a.m.
James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress
Prosser Gifford, Director of Scholarly Programs, Library of Congress

Session 1: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Chair: Bruce Alberts, National Academy of Science
Cosmology: Sir Martin Rees, Cambridge University
Marc Davis, University of California, Berkeley
Physics: Leon Lederman, Fermi National Laboratory
Jerome Isaac Friedman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mathematics: Philip A. Griffiths, Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton University
Michael Monastyrsky, Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow

Session 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Chair: H. Patrick Swygert, Howard University
History & Society: Emmanuel Le Roi Ladurie, College de France, Paris
Thomas P. Hughes, University of Pennsylvania
History & Politics: Jonathan Spence, Yale University
Judith M. Brown, Oxford University
Political Philosophy: Pierre Manent, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
Shlomo Avineri, Hebrew University, Jerusalem

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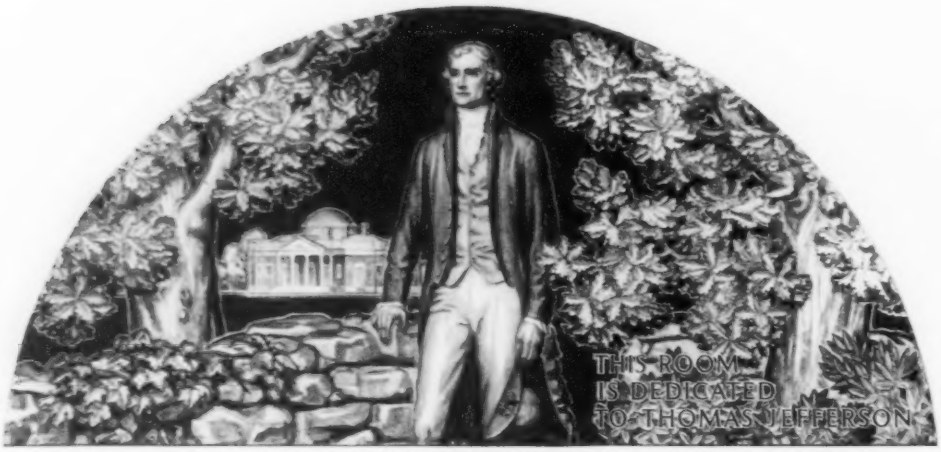

The South Reading Room of the Adams Building is dedicated to Thomas Jefferson and includes this mural by Ezra Winter in a lunette over the reference desk.

Bicentennial Background

The Library's Jeffersonian Legacy

By JOHN Y. COLE

The Library of Congress's connections to Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) are close and important. He was the institution's "spiritual founder," and today the Library is the major repository of his books and papers.

Jefferson once proclaimed "I cannot live without books." During his presidency (1801-1809), he signed the act of Congress that provided for the appointment of a Librarian of Congress and gave Congress the power to establish the Library's rules and regulations. Throughout his presidency, he recommended books for the Library's collections, and he appointed the first two Librarians of Congress, John J. Beckley (1802-1807) and Patrick Magruder (1807-1815).

Jefferson's most important contribution, however, came later. In 1815, after the British destroyed the U.S. Capitol (where the Library was located), former President Jefferson sold his personal library of 6,487 volumes for $23,950 to the government to "recommence" the Library of Congress, forever expanding its scope and ambitions beyond those of a legislative library. The vast range of his interests, reflected in his library, determined the universal and diverse nature of the Library's future collections and activities. His argument that "there is ... no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer" became the rationale for justifying the Library's national and international roles. By purchasing Jefferson's library in 1815, Congress had acquired "an admirable substratum for a national library." Moreover, the Library of Congress used the classification system Jefferson devised for his personal library for the rest of the century.

Jefferson in the Bicentennial Commemoration

From the first discussions 10 years ago about celebrating the Library's Bicentennial, held in 1989, it was obvious that Jefferson and Jefferson-related projects would play a pivotal role.

Early in the decade, the Henry Luce Foundation gave the Library a $250,000 grant toward a major Jefferson exhibition. Scheduled to open to the public on April 24, 2000, the exhibition "Thomas Jefferson: Genius of Liberty," curated by Gerard W. Gawalt of the Manuscript Division, is a cornerstone of the Bicentennial commemoration. It will draw on the Library's unparalleled collection of Jefferson materials and will showcase a re-creation of Jefferson's library.

John Y. Cole

Gerard Gawalt of the Manuscript Division (right), curator of the Library's forthcoming Bicentennial exhibition on Thomas Jefferson, with Douglas Wilson, former director of Monticello's International Center for Jefferson Studies.

In April, the Library announced the beginning of a worldwide search to find duplicates of volumes from Jefferson's library that were destroyed by another fire in the U.S. Capitol, on Christmas eve, 1851. As a Bicentennial "Gift to the Nation," Jerry Jones, owner and general manager of the Dallas Cowboys football team, and his wife, Gene, gave the Library $1 million to purchase the 897 missing volumes once they are located (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 1999).

"American Treasures of the Library of Congress," the popular permanent exhibition that opened in 1997 in the Jefferson Building, owes much to Jefferson. It is organized according to the ordering of his personal library, which in turn was inspired by Francis Bacon's organization of knowledge: Memory (History); Reason (Philosophy); and Imagination (Fine Arts). One of the Library's treasures, Jefferson's "rough draft" of the Declaration of Independence, was featured when the exhibition opened and will be on display this summer from June to August. The exhibition section on Jefferson's library is always of great interest to visitors. "American Treasures" was supported by the Xerox Foundation.

The Library's unsurpassed collection of Jefferson's papers is being made available on the Library's American Memory Web site (**www.loc.gov**). New Bicentennial-related publications associated with Jefferson will include: *Thomas Jefferson and the Education of a Citizen*, edited by James Gilreath; *The Declaration of Independence: The Evolution of the Text*, by Julian P. Boyd, revised edition edited by Mr. Gawalt; and a book accompanying the April 2000 exhibition, also edited by Mr. Gawalt.

Finally, the overall Bicentennial theme, "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty," is a Jeffersonian theme. It was chosen because the Library's Bicentennial Steering Committee wanted to connect the Library and its traditions with the democratic ideal espoused by Jefferson and the other Founding Fathers. Dr. Billington said in his preface to *Jefferson's Legacy:* "The active mind was central to Jefferson's concept of government. ... He believed that self-government depended on the free, unhampered pursuit of truth by an informed and involved citizenry. Today's Library of Congress epitomizes Jefferson's faith in learning and his practical determination to make democracy work."

The Library and Thomas Jefferson: The First 150 Years

The Library's Jeffersonian legacy was not highlighted between 1815, when his books arrived in Washington in horse-drawn wagons, and the early 1940s, during the administration of Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish. An exception was Librarian of Congress Ainsworth Rand Spofford (1864-1897), who built the Library of Congress into a national institution emphasizing a paraphrased Jeffersonian message: "there is almost no work, within the vast range of literature and science, which may not at some time prove useful to the legislature of a great nation." To this statement, Spofford added an appropriate public function: It was imperative that such a great national library collection be shared with all citizens, for the United States was "a republic which rests upon the popular intelligence."

Jefferson's "rough draft" of the Declaration of Independence is examined in this September 1944 photograph of David Mearns, director of Reference (left), Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish and Verner Clapp, director of Acquisitions.

The second exception was the gathering in 1898 of the remaining books from Jefferson's library into a special collection in the new Library building. The project was described in the 1898 *Annual Report* of Librarian of Congress John Russell Young (1897-1899).

MacLeish (1939-1944), prompted by the forthcoming celebration of the bicentennial of Jefferson's birth in 1943, restored Jefferson to a position of prominence among the Library's heroes. In recognition of the relationship "in which Jefferson stands to the Library of Congress," MacLeish dedicated the south reading room of the Library's new Adams Building (opened to the public in 1939) to Jefferson, commissioning appropriate murals and quotations from artist Ezra Winter. The murals were dedicated by the Attorney General, Francis Biddle, on Dec. 15, 1941, in ceremonies that, appropriately enough, also commemorated the sesquicentennial anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights.

MacLeish was responsible for two key publishing projects: *The Declaration of Independence: The*

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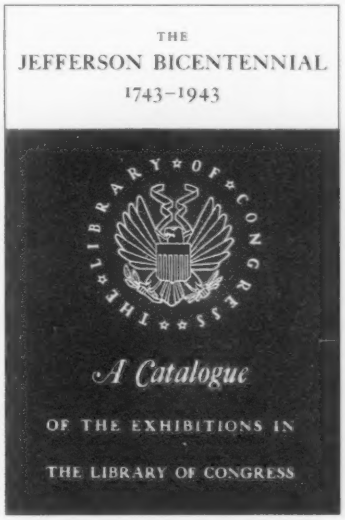


The Jefferson Bicentennial exhibitions, displayed throughout the Library's two buildings in 1943, were the first major project of the Library's newly established Exhibits Office.

The New World

Library Publishes Facsimile Of 1562 Map of the Americas

By AUDREY FISCHER

The Library of Congress recently published a facsimile of a 16th century map of the Americas. The ornate map was the largest engraved map of North and South America at the time and one of two known originals. It was given to the Library's Geography and Map Division by Lessing J. Rosenwald in 1949.

Sixteenth century European explorers, primarily from Spain and Portugal, successfully traversed vast portions of the Western Hemisphere, and their findings were revealed gradually to an information-starved Europe in the half-century after Christopher Columbus's voyage to America.

In 1562, Diego Gutiérrez, a Spanish cartographer from the respected Casa de la Contratación in Seville, and Hieronymous Cock, a noted engraver from Antwerp, collaborated in the preparation of the map, which provided substantial information about vast portions of the new world.

The map depicted the East Coast of the United States, Central and South America, Canada and Mexico and portions of the western coasts of Europe and Africa. It also provided a richly illustrated view of a region filled with images and names that had been popularized in Europe after 1492.

On the map were found one of the earliest references to California, the Amazon River system, other rivers of South America, Lake Titicaca, the location of Potosi, Bolivia (a silver mining center), and of Mexico City. Also depicted were Florida and the greater southeastern part of the United States, plus myriad coastal features of South, Central, North and Caribbean America. Images of parrots, monkeys, mermaids, fearsome sea creatures, cannibals, Patagonian giants and an erupting volcano in central Mexico complemented the numerous settlements, rivers, mountains and capes that were named.

***Americae sive quartae orbis partis nova et exactissima descriptio* by Diego Gutiérrez, 1562**

The original map, which occasionally goes on display in the permanent, rotating exhibition, "American Treasures of the Library of Congress," is a magnet for geographers, who line up to take turns inspecting it closely.

The facsimile, which measures 93 by 86 cm., was reproduced by the Library with the assistance of the VITAE Foundation in Brazil and Digicolor in Seattle. The map reproduction is accompanied by a brochure containing the history of the map and the events surrounding its preparation written by John R. Hébert, senior specialist in Hispanic bibliography, of the Library's Hispanic Division. The map and brochure are available for $28 from the Library's Sales Shop. Credit card orders are taken at (202) 707-0204 and fax orders at (202) 707-5057. Checks payable to the Library of Congress may be sent to the Sales Shop, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4985. A mailing and handling charge of $5 will be added to the $28 cost of the publication. ◆

Ms. Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

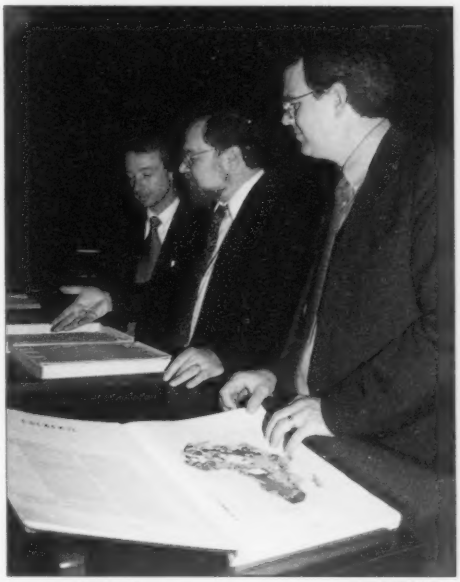
Energy Event

Library Hosts Domestic Petroleum Council

On April 14, the African and Middle Eastern Division hosted a dinner for 20 members of the Domestic Petroleum Council that work or are currently planning to work in Africa and the Middle East. On display were three magnificent maps from the Geography and Map Division showing the energy resources found in the Arabian Peninsula, North Africa and continental Africa.

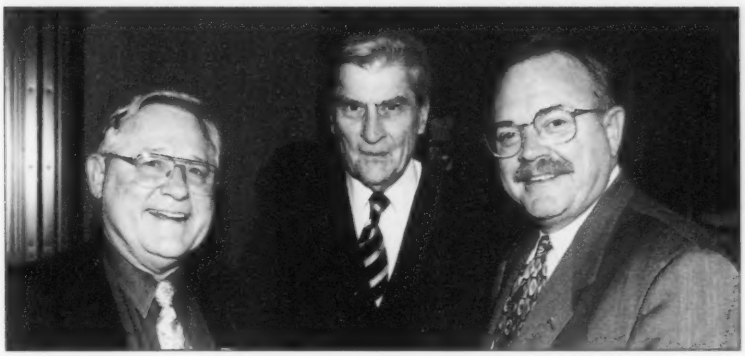
Other highlights of the exhibit featured some of the division's treasures, including a 15th century copy of an Arabic book on constellations, an 18th century North African collection of the prophet Muhammad's traditions, an 18th century book of prayers by the North African Islamic scholar Al-Jazuli, a West African manuscript in Arabic of Islamic prayers and a 14th century copy of *Al-Burda*, the well known Arabic poem lauding Muhammad.

Donald Scott, Deputy Librarian of Congress, welcomed the members of the Domestic Petroleum Council and the congressional delegation attending the dinner and discussed some of the Library's activities and their relevance to the activities of the council. Other speakers included Reps. Edward Royce (R-Calif.) and Kevin Brady (R-Texas), as well as Senate Parliamentarian Bob Dove. ◆



Yvonne French

Turkish Area Specialist Chris Murphy (center) shows a rare medieval Arabic manuscript about petroleum to Charles Davidson and Chip Gill of Vastar Resources Inc.



Sen. John Warner (R-Va.) (center) was one of more than 50 members of Congress at the National Newspaper Association's congressional luncheon at the Library on March 18. During the luncheon, association members agreed to help publicize the Library's Bicentennial. With Sen. Warner is R. Jack Fishman (left), publisher of the *Citizen Tribune* of Morristown, Tenn., and Robert DeBusk, executive director of the Tennessee Press Association.

Jefferson
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Evolution of the Text (1943) by Julian P. Boyd and the first steps in creating a complete catalog of Jefferson's 1815 library.

The Jefferson Bicentennial Exhibits, which opened April 12, 1943, included nine groups of materials — displayed throughout the Library's two buildings at the time — that reflected Jefferson's many interests. The 171-page "Catalogue," published in 1943, is now a collector's item. Other events were part of the celebration: a seminar on Thomas Jefferson with scholars and public figures and chaired by MacLeish; a concert of music "dear to Jefferson" by the Budapest String Quartet; a performance, in the Coolidge Auditorium of Sidney Kingsley's play about Jefferson, *The Patriots;* and an oration on Jefferson ("The Permanence of Jefferson") at the Library on April 13 by MacLeish's friend Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter.

In his introduction to Frankfurter's talk, MacLeish vividly describes the essence of the Library of Congress-Thomas Jefferson relationship:

"If there were withdrawn from the Library of Congress as it now exists everything which grew from the roots Jefferson planted, and everything which relates to the spirit of Jefferson breathed, there would be little of its greatness left." ◆

John Y. Cole is director of the Center for the Book. With Chief of Staff Jo Ann Jenkins, he is co-chair of the Library's Bicentennial Steering Committee.

'The Power of Poetry'

Poet Laureate Pinsky Reads New Work

By YVONNE FRENCH

Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky spoke poignantly about himself at a reading of new work May 5. The autobiographical statements came on the heels of his unprecedented third consecutive appointment as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress.

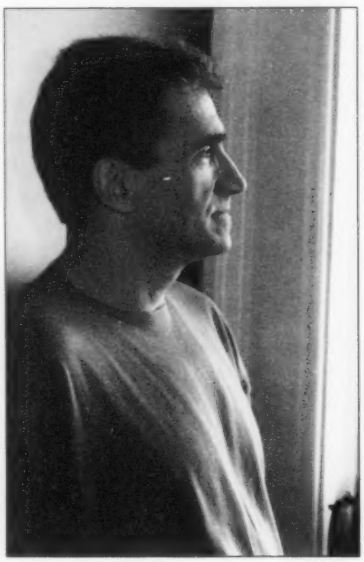
Dr. Billington on April 5 appointed Mr. Pinsky to a third term as Laureate and named three poets to be Special Consultants to assist with poetry programs of the Bicentennial year. They are former Poet Laureate Rita Dove, Louise Glück and W.S. Merwin (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 1999). "We want to create a once-in-a-century arrangement, not only to celebrate poetry during our 200th birthday, but also to significantly increase support for the national outreach of the Poetry Office and the Poet Laureate," Dr. Billington said.

Said Mr. Pinsky: "It is a considerable honor. I am overjoyed to be accompanied by people like Rita, Louise and William." The four poets will read at 6:45 p.m. Nov. 10 in the Coolidge Auditorium. Also reading will be the three 1999 Witter Bynner Fellows, David Gewanter, Campbell McGrath and Heather McHugh.

In his reading May 5, which closed the Library's 1998-1999 Poetry and Literature Series, Mr. Pinsky revealed why he is so fond of writing poetry: he is obsessed with order and his persona was shaped by a head injury suffered by his mother when he was a child in Long Branch, N.J. After the injury, incurred during a fall, she became hypersensitive to light and sound, and her condition affected the entire family.

His explanation gave an autobiographical context to the poem "The Green Piano," first published in *The New Yorker*. Mr. Pinsky explained that he had been sitting at the piano when his little sister came in with those who were carrying their injured mother. He told the Coolidge audience his sister later told him that seeing him at the piano is the first memory she had of the incident although she was present when their mother fell.

The poem relates how uncertain his family life became in the years after the fall. His mother was carried up the stairs and into the living room, "inaugurating the reign of our confusion," Mr. Pinsky read.



N. Alicia Byers

Robert Pinsky

He then describes how the piano was the color of pea soup when the family first got it; it later was partially antiqued in ivory and umber and finally was painted dusty pink before disappearing altogether, only to be replaced by a "crappy little Baldwin Acrosonic."

Another of his new poems, "Samurai Song," contains the phrase: "When I had / No mother I embraced order."

Mr. Pinsky said it was an unusual reading for him in that he was trying some new works rather than pulling out "chestnuts from his previous writings." He said after the reading that, although it is difficult to reveal such personal feelings, he did so because he was in the mood and felt at home with the Library audience. The new works will be published in a book next year by Farrar, Straus & Giroux. "The book is in part an inquiry into what kind of person I am," Mr. Pinsky told the audience.

Mr. Pinsky began and ended the reading with poems by William Butler Yeats. From "Meditations in Time of Civil War: The Stare's Nest by My Window," he read: "We had fed the heart on fantasies,/The heart's grown brutal from the fare," which reminded him of the violence in the Balkans and Colorado.

Addressing a group of members of the Library of Congress Professional Association Poetry and Meditation Forum the next day, he amplified: "All human culture is not benign. We have created, for example, such cultural realities as racism and germ warfare. Yeats's lines seem to me a powerful formulation. They raise the question, 'What should we feed the heart?'"

Mr. Pinsky also attended a May 5 luncheon at the Library during which the Librarian of Congress praised Mr. Pinsky's main endeavor as Laureate, the Favorite Poem Project, as a "particularly wonderful feature of his laureateship" and lauded his "unselfish admiration for other poets and the joy ordinary people take in a whole variety of poetry. It has been a very uplifting thing for all kinds of people. He has been a humanist among poets."

For the Favorite Poem Project, which is also a Bicentennial project of the Library, Mr. Pinsky has asked Americans to tell him what their favorite poem is and why it is important to them. He has received more than 15,000 responses and is culling them to produce an archives of 1,000 audio and 200 video tapes. He will present the tapes to the Library in April as one of the Library's Bicentennial "Gifts to the Nation." The tapes will augment the existing Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature, which has recordings of 2,000 poets and authors reading their work, among them Robert Frost, Pablo Neruda and Gwendolyn Brooks.

The presentation of poetry readings will be made during a special Bicentennial conference on "Poetry and the American People: Reading, Performance and Publication." The conference will be held April 3-4, 2000, at the Library of Congress, and will include readings by the three Special Consultants and the Poet Laureate.

Prosser Gifford, director of the Office of Scholarly Programs, also praised Mr. Pinsky for the project. "Robert has caught — embodied —

To Serve Scholars

Library Holds Meeting on 21st Century Scholarship

BY SHERRY LEVY-REINER

Expressing hopes that the Library of Congress will continue to uphold "the nobility of scholarship" as integral to maintaining democratic institutions, representatives of a dozen professional societies and research organizations met March 19 to explore ways in which the Library might better serve scholars and researchers.

Carolyn T. Brown, acting director of Area Studies Collections, convened the daylong meeting to discuss current initiatives and to hear representatives' suggestions about what role the Library should play in 21st century scholarship. "We are working to establish a community of shared values for those who come to use our resources," explained Ms. Brown, "and we are aware of our growing 'virtual community.' Our priority is to identify the special ways in which the Library can interact with both constituencies."

Because scholarly societies and research institutions are interested in encouraging future generations of scholars, they see a role for the Library in demonstrating, said one meeting participant, "the integral role of scholarship in a free and democratic society."

The Library can serve as a home institution for independent scholars by offering for use its incomparable collections.

At a time when scholarship is crossing and blurring traditional disciplinary boundaries, the Library, because of the breadth of its collections, can support collaborative projects such as the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*. A bibliography of 5,000 works selected and annotated annually by a network of more than 130 academics, the *Handbook*, which is edited by Dolores Martin of the Hispanic Division, appears on the Internet in draft form, making it an accessible focal point for worldwide scholarly attention and cooperation.

The attendees also urged the Library to play a leadership role in helping users evaluate materials that are on the Internet. The Library has traditionally compiled bibliographies in many subject areas and thus could offer similar tools to lead patrons to important Web sites. The nature of electronic scholarship, which enables researchers to share information rapidly across great distances, provides innumerable opportunities for the Library to help evaluate resources.

While more information is available electronically, meeting participants emphasized the importance of preserving primary documents and ensuring their accessibility for researchers who need to work with them.

Although an image is important to someone studying the content of a document, the original's paper or watermark, for example, may be of equal importance to someone trying to date the document. The representatives of the scholarly organizations, who praised the Library's role in developing preservation methods, expressed the hope that the institution would continue to share its knowledge with others.

In addition to being regarded for its collections, the Library, said Ms. Brown, garners considerable respect from those in and out of academe for its scholarly initiatives. "We must ensure, as the Library begins its third century of service to our nation, that we continue to deserve that high degree of respect." ◆

Ms. Levy-Reiner is project coordinator in the Office of Scholarly Programs.

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the power of poetry in his own life, and has emboldened and empowered others to find it in theirs," Mr. Gifford told the Coolidge auditorium audience. "His laureateship has been a time of growing, escalating public outreach. We have become aware that poetry inhabits lives we had not suspected, comforts those in trouble, sustains those in need, satisfies those who seek completeness of vision. We all harbor favorite poems."

If Mr. Pinsky had his way, everyone in America would have a notebook full of their favorite poems and they would often say them aloud. He brought his own notebook of 45 poems he admires to the informal talk with members of the Poetry and Meditation Forum, and encouraged members, as he does his graduate students at Boston University, to begin their own Favorite Poem notebooks.

"There's something on a deep anthropological level, something almost genetic or evolutionary [about saying poems you love aloud]. Certain cadences or phrases get under your skin and they become part of your emotional habitat — like an amulet or medicine pouch carried on one's person. But instead of a literal medicine bag with stones or plants or trinkets, the power inheres in these specific, meaning grunts that have emotional resonance beyond their denotation."

Mr. Pinsky teaches in the graduate creative writing program at Boston University. His most recent publications are *The Handbook of Heartbreak: 101 Poems of Lost Love and Sorrow* and *The Sounds of Poetry: A Brief Guide*, which Mr. Pinsky describes as "a brief, plain book about how to hear poems."

His other works include the collections of his poetry *Sadness and Happiness* (1975); *An Explanation of America* (1980), awarded the Saxifrage Prize as the year's best volume of poetry from a small or university press; *History of My Heart* (1984), which won the William Carlos Williams Prize in 1995; *The Want Bone* (1990); and *The Figured Wheel: New and Collected Poems, 1966-1996* (1995). His verse translation of *The Inferno of Dante* (1994) was awarded the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in poetry and the Harold Morton Landon Translation Award.

Having served as poetry editor of *The New Republic* through much of the 1980s, he is currently poetry editor of the weekly Internet magazine *Slate*, and a contributor to "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" on PBS television, reading poems related to current events. Mr. Pinsky has also introduced several recordings of Favorite Poem Project volunteers on "Anthem," a weekly program on National Public Radio. ◆

Ms. French is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

Legal Honors

George Mitchell Receives Wickersham Award

BY ANNE L. MERCER

The Friends of the Law Library of Congress on April 13 presented the 1999 Wickersham Award for "exceptional public service and dedication to the legal profession" to former Sen. George J. Mitchell.

In the Great Hall of the Supreme Court, Sen. Mitchell was recognized for his illustrious career as a lawyer in government and private practice, as a federal judge, as the Democratic senator from Maine from 1980 to 1995 (majority leader in 1989-95) and as a special adviser to the president as chairman of the peace negotiations in Northern Ireland.

"It is wonderful to be able to celebrate the professional excellence of an outstanding citizen, George Mitchell," said Law Librarian Rubens Medina. "We are dedicating this evening to him because he has dedicated so much of himself and his career to serving his country."

Following dinner, hosted by Gail Littlejohn, senior vice president for government affairs of Lexis-Nexis, Associate Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg began the ceremony in the court's chambers by welcoming the group, and Mr. Medina thanked the Friends for their support of the Law Library and its initiatives.

"On behalf of the Law Library staff, I want to state that we feel very fortunate and privileged to be the recipients of this friendship and special status. ... The Friends of the Law Library makes an important contribution to the standing of the Law Library and our profession."

Reflections Photography

Former Sen. George Mitchell

Tributes to Mitchell were offered by three longtime friends. Shephard Lee of Westbrook, Maine, offered reminiscences of their 40 years of friendship. He was followed by Rep. John Baldacci (D-Maine) and Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah), who spoke with humor and sincerity of their experiences working with Mr. Mitchell in Congress. Then Abe Krash, president of the Friends, presented the award, after which Mr. Mitchell spoke of his efforts to obtain the historic accord in Northern Ireland to end decades of conflict between the government of Ireland, the United Kingdom and the political parties of Northern Ireland. The accord was overwhelmingly endorsed by the voters of Ireland in May 1998.

Among those in attendance from the Library of Congress at this year's dinner were Daniel J. Boorstin, Librarian Emeritus, and his wife, Ruth; Dwight D. Opperman, the 1993 Wickersham Award winner, who traveled from Minnesota to help honor this year's winner; executive director of the American Association of Law Libraries, Roger Parent, together with the president of the association, James Heller of the William and Mary School of Law, as well as the president-elect, Robert L. Oakley of the Georgetown University Law Center.

The Law Library of Congress is the largest and most comprehensive source of legal information in the world and a research center for foreign, international and comparative law. The Friends of the Law Library is a national nonprofit group that encourages awareness of and support for the Law Library. The Wickersham Award is named for George Wickersham (1858-1936), who, with other noted jurists, attorneys and scholars, conceived the Friends as a way to help build a great national law library. Wickersham was a partner in the law firm of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft.

Major support for the 1999 Wickersham Award dinner also came from the sponsor, Lexis-Nexis; benefactors FedEx, Philip Morris Cos. Inc., Starwood Hotels & Resorts and West Group; and patrons Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, Dun & Bradstreet, Fannie Mae Foundation, Matthew Bender & Co., the Walt Disney Co. and Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering.

For more information about the Friends of the Law Library of Congress or the Wickersham Award, contact Anne L. Mercer, executive director, Friends of the Law Library, at (202) 707-5076. ◆

Ms. Mercer is executive director of the Friends of the Law Library of Congress

Reflections Photography

Sen. Mitchell (right) enjoys the celebration with his wife, Heather, and former congressional colleague Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah)

Justice Through the Prism of Diversity

Law Library Celebrates Law Day

By NATALIE GAWDIAK

The Law Library observed Law Day on May 3 with a series of readings by the staff on the theme of law and justice. Their remarks were delivered before some 90 colleagues and guests gathered in the Thomas Jefferson Building.

Law Librarian Rubens Medina opened the annual event with senior legal research specialist Pamela B. Craig, who introduced the participants. Guests, who included friends from the House Legislative Counsel's Office, the World Bank, foreign embassies and staff attorneys from around the Library, were welcomed at a reception supported by the Friends of the Law Library at the close of the program.

Mr. Medina welcomed the audience and told them that the Law Library looks forward to Law Day because it affords "us an opportunity to reflect on our profession and our mission, as well as reminds us that, at the center of that profession and mission, law is the instrument in which for thousands of years humanity has placed its hopes for justice and peace." He commended the staff for their "enthusiasm and seriousness" in selecting readings that reflected justice from the viewpoint of their various traditions and legal heritages.

The first reading, by foreign legal specialist Stephen F. Clarke, from *Continuing Poundmaker & Riel's Quest: Presentations Made at a Conference on Aboriginal Peoples and Justice*, spoke to the differences between the Euro-Canadian idea of justice and that of various North American aboriginal peoples, as described by Murray Sinclair, associate chief justice of the Provincial Court of Manitoba:

"In the dominant society, deviant behavior ... is considered a wrong that must be controlled by interdiction, enforcement and correction designed to punish and deter. ... The emphasis is on punishment. ... Restitution is ordered generally as a form of financial compensation and usually only if the offender has the financial resources to do so."

N. Alicia Byers

Law Librarian of Congress Rubens Medina welcomes Pamela Craig, senior legal research specialist, to the podium to introduce participants in this year's Law Day program at the Library.

But in most aboriginal societies, "reparation or restitution to the victim or the community in a way that restores balance and harmony to the people involved [is] a primary consideration. The person wronged, whether bereaved or impoverished, would be entitled to some form of restitution. In the eyes of the [aboriginal] community, sentencing the offender to incarceration, or worse still, placing him or her on probation, without first addressing the issue of reconciliation, would be tantamount to completely relieving the offender of any responsibility for restitution of the wrong. ... Such action is viewed by them as an abdication of responsibility and a total exoneration of the wrongdoer."

Robert N. Gee, chief of Law Library Public Services, was inspired by the closing argument of the defense counsel in Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In the trial of a black man falsely accused of attacking a white woman in Alabama in 1935, the defense attorney appeals to the jury:

"One more thing, gentlemen, before I quit. Thomas Jefferson once said that all men are created equal. ... There is a tendency ... for certain people to use this phrase out of context, to satisfy all conditions. ... We know all men are not created equal in the sense some people would have us believe — some people are smarter than others, some people have more opportunity because they're born with it, some men make more money than others, some ladies make better cakes than others — some people are born gifted beyond the normal scope of most men. But there is one way in this country in which all men are created equal — there is one human institution that makes a pauper the equal of a Rockefeller, the stupid man the equal of an Einstein and the ignorant man the equal of any college president. That institution, gentlemen, is a court. It can be the Supreme Court of the United States or the humblest J.P. Court in the land or this honorable court which you serve. Our courts have their faults, as does any human institution, but in this country our courts are the great levelers, and in our courts all men are created equal."

Judicial discretion was the focus of the passage chosen by Ruth Levush,

the Israeli senior legal specialist, from a book by the chief justice of Israel, Aharon Barak.

He asks: "Is democracy merely the rule of the people and their determination of policy through their elected representatives? Or is democracy also certain fundamental values to which the regime must be faithful?" He feels that "democracy is multidimensional. It is the realization of certain fundamental values, such as basic human rights." Siding with the right of judges to be the arbiters of justice despite their not having been elected by the people, Barak maintains that "a judge who adopts policy on the basis of the democracy's fundamental values makes the democracy faithful to itself."

Edith Palmer, senior legal specialist for German-speaking countries, returned to one of the fundamental sources of Western law with readings from the Roman law book "Laws of the Twelve Tables." In addition to reading from a translation, Ms. Palmer gave the audience a taste of how the Twelve Tables sound in the succinct Latin original.

The summons to court (Table 1) lays down the basic principles on how to commence and carry out a legal action. Whereas defendants had to come to court, if necessary by force, the peaceful settlement of disputes was also encouraged, such as in Law VII: "When litigants wish to settle their dispute among themselves, even while they are on their way to appear before the Praetor, they shall have the right to make peace; and whatever agreement they enter into, it shall be considered just, and shall be confirmed." Law X set a time limit: "The setting of the sun shall be the extreme limit of time within which a judge must render his decision."

Basic elements of another major Western influence on law, the Greek legal heritage, were part of Theresa Papademetriou's reading. The Law Library's senior legal specialist for Greek law read passages from Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics:*

"A rule of justice is natural that has the same validity everywhere, and does not depend on our accepting it or not. A rule is conventional that in the first instance may be settled in one way or the other indifferently, though having once been settled it is not indifferent."

N. Alicia Byers

Randall Snyder, law librarian of the Executive Office of the President Law Library (left); Anne Mercer, executive director of the Friends of the Law Library of Congress; and Mark Strattner, chief of Collection Services for the Law Library of Congress

Justice from a more modern perspective was explored in an excerpt chose by Russian senior legal specialist Peter Roudik from *Striving for Law in a Lawless Land: Memoirs of a Russian Reformer* by Alexander M. Yakovlev:

"Criminal law very often reflects the significant features of a given culture — its mores, its political and social structure. .. Criminal justice plays a peculiar role in history. ... It is precisely here [in the criminal justice system of a country] that an essential facet of society manifests itself: the level of that society's civilization, its recognition of the rights and legitimate interests of its citizens, its respect for human dignity."

Polish senior legal specialist Bozena Sarnecka-Crouch read from the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791, in view of the fact that Congress had declared May 3 as "Polish Constitution Day" (Public Law 101-532). Ms. Sarnecka-Crouch read:

"We declare most solemnly, that any person coming into Poland, from whatever part of the world, or returning from abroad, as soon as he sets his foot on the territory of the Republic, becomes free and at liberty to exercise his industry, wherever and in whatever manner he pleases, to settle either in towns or villages, to farm and rent lands and houses, on tenures and contracts, for as long a term as may be agreed upon."

The readings concluded with Kersi B. Shroff, senior legal specialist for the United Kingdom and other British-derived systems and currently the chief of the Law Library's Western Law Division. Mr. Shroff read from Francis Lyman Windolph's "Shakespeare and the Law," in *Reflections of the Law in Literature.* Windolph believed that Shakespeare was "generally contemptuous of the law, lawyers and legal procedure" of his day. He supported his point by proposing that the legal argument over a suicide by drowning used in an actual court case was satirized in the dialogue between the gravediggers' who stand over Ophelia's grave in Hamlet:

"'Here lies the water; good: here stands the man; good; if the man go to this water, and drown himself, it is, will he, nill he, he goes — mark you that; but if the water come to him and drown him, he drowns not himself: argal [arguably], he that is not guilty of his own death shortens not his own life.'"

"I think no reasonable person can doubt that ... Shakespeare was amusing himself at the expense of what he called 'old father antic the law,'" Mr. Shroff said.

"So much for the lawyers talking nonsense." ◆

Ms. Gawdiak is a writer-editor in the Law Library.

Preserving the Digital Law

Expert Speaks at Library Event

BY MARIE-LOUISE BERNAL

In a continuing effort to explore solutions to the issue of long-term preservation of digital legal sources, Law Librarian Rubens Medina called a second meeting of managers from federal agencies and other institutions on March 25.

"I am pleased that so many of you have responded to this invitation to meet Professor Margaret Hedstrom of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, an expert in the field, in order to learn more about the current state of archiving of digital information," the Law Librarian said in his welcoming remarks. "My hope is, with your help, to broaden the interest and support within the federal sector for the development of preservation standards for electronic records."

Skip Swinson

Law Librarian Rubens Medina confers with Rebecca Graham of the Council on Library and Information Resources and Steve Levenson from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

The managers met with Law Library staff and officials from other parts of the Library of Congress, such as the Preservation and Reformatting Office, the Congressional Research Service and the Copyright Office. Stakeholders from other agencies and organizations in this group include Francis Buckley, superintendent of documents, Government Printing Office; Shelley Dowling, librarian of the court, U.S. Supreme Court; Rebecca Graham, Council on Library and Information Resources; Steve Levenson from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts; Robert Willard, National Council of Library and Information Science; and Marc Wolfe of the National Archives and Records Administration.

The meeting focused on a recently released report by the Research Libraries Group, "Digital Preservation Needs and Requirements in RLG Institutions," written by Margaret Hedstrom, in cooperation with Sheon Montgomery. Ms. Hedstrom was the featured speaker and shared her experiences in national and international attempts to solve digital preservation needs.

"Digital preservation policies and practices are not well developed in RLG member institutions," Ms. Hedstrom admitted. "Based on our study, two-thirds of the institutions lack written policies for digital preservation. One common reason that institutions appear not to develop digital preservation policies is that they have not yet assumed responsibility for preserving materials in digital form."

Ms. Hedstrom has been conducting and supervising research projects on the management and preservation of electronic records for nearly 20 years. During the last decade she has called two major conferences that established national priorities for research and development in this field. The Research Libraries Group report describes the current status of digital preservation in 30 research libraries and 24 archives, museums and special collections.

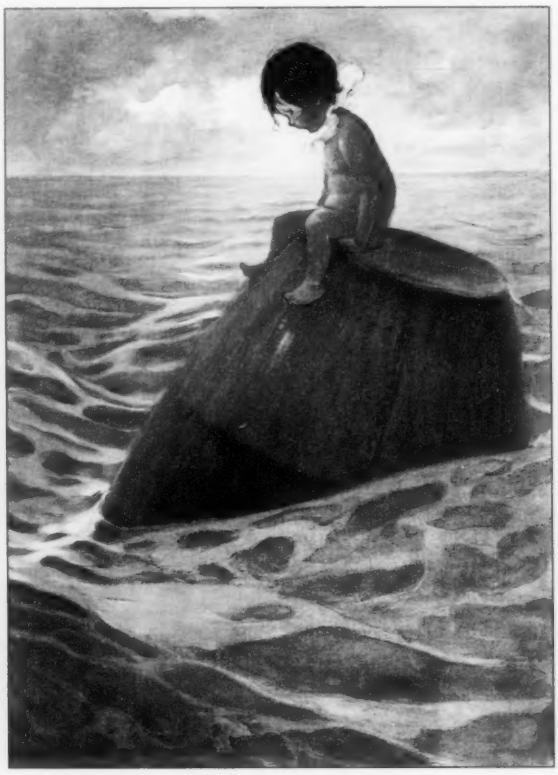
The report indicated that, by the year 2001, 98 percent expected to be preserving both acquired, or "born-digital," items as well as materials they have converted to digital form. Fewer than half of the institutions with digital holdings refresh them by copying to new media or migrating these materials to current formats. The need for digital preservation expertise is high: asked to rate staff as expert, intermediate or novice, only eight of the 54 institutions considered their staff at the expert level. The report revealed further that the participating member libraries looked to RLG to make available concrete standards, guidelines and training.

Ms. Hedstrom described the organization of the report and explained its scope and definitions: "It will be necessary to totally change our thinking. We must no longer see digital information as a continuation of the paper. We must think anew. "

In relating current strategies and best practices, complex issues were touched upon, such as appropriate standards for long-term preservation and the incentives for creators and producers to adopt such standards and who is responsible for preserving which materials.

Mr. Medina concluded the meeting by expressing his commitment to heightening the awareness of the software industry to the need to develop archival standards. He also promised to continue coordinating efforts to bring federal stakeholders and interested law librarians together in order to keep them current on the archiving of digital information in general and the long-term preservation of legal records in particular. ◆

Ms. Bernal is special assistant to the Law Librarian.



Wonderful Babies

Original Drawings for The Water-Babies *to Be Exhibited*

A group of 12 original drawings created by Jessie Willcox Smith (1863-1935) in 1916 to illustrate *The Water-Babies,* a children's book by the Rev. Charles Kingsley (1819-1875), will go on display on June 10 in the Swann Gallery of Caricature and Cartoon in the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. The exhibition closes Sept. 18. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

These special works by one of the most popular and successful graphic artists in America during the first half of this century illustrate the Victorian fairy tale about Tom, a young chimney sweep. He escapes the toil and drudgery of his miserable apprenticeship through his magical transformation by fairies from a dirty little boy into a clean "water-baby." Cleansed of soot and sin, Tom ultimately finds happiness and spiritual redemption among his fellow aquatic fairies and the natural and supernatural creatures he befriends in his watery world. Recognized today as an international classic among children's books, dozens of editions have since been published, though none more beautiful or imaginative than that issued in 1916 by the New York publishing house of Dodd, Mead & Company, with illustrations by Jessie Willcox Smith.

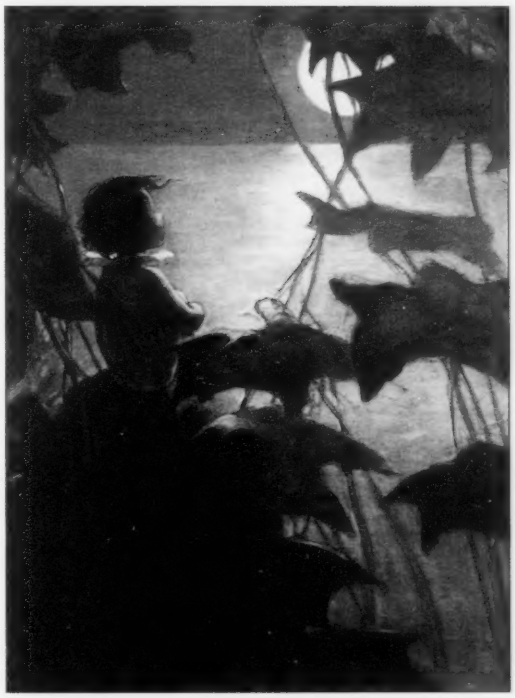
Jessie Willcox Smith (1863-1935) was born in Philadelphia the year *The Water-Babies* was first published. Beginning in 1885 she studied art under the celebrated artist Thomas Eakins at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and by 1888 had her first drawing published in a national magazine, *St. Nicholas,* an illustrated journal devoted to children. She soon found her commercial niche creating images of children and their world for literary publications and advertising campaigns. In 1894 she enrolled in drawing classes taught by Howard Pyle, perhaps the greatest teacher in the history of American illustration. Under his tutelage, Smith's talents and commissions grew quickly, and by 1900 she was one of the most popular and successful graphic artists in America. Over the course of her long, productive career she created hundreds of covers and illustrations for numerous books and such magazines as *Harper's, Collier's, Good Housekeeping, Ladies Home Journal* and *Women's Home Companion.* In addition, her original paintings and watercolors were widely exhibited.

Jessie Willcox Smith evidently thought quite highly of her *Water-Babies* work, for upon her death in 1935 she bequeathed the 12 paintings for the frontispiece and interior color plates to the Library for inclusion in the Cabinet of American Illustration, now housed in the Library's Prints and Photographs Division. The Cabinet was the brainchild of William Patten, a former art editor for *Harper's* magazine during the 1880s and 1890s. Patten's idea was to create a national collection of original works of art documenting what he and others considered the golden age of American book and periodical illustration that took place from the 1880s until the outbreak of World War I. He solicited donations to the Library from selected American illustrators or their heirs. The Cabinet proved a success, and over the course of four years, until Patten's deteriorating health slowed the project, the Library amassed a collection of 4,000 drawings by the nation's finest illustrators. Preserved in the Cabinet are representative works by Arthur Burdett Frost, Alice Barber Stephens, Charles Dana Gibson, Charlotte Harding and Edwin Abbey, among others.

The Swann Gallery showcases the collections of the Library of Congress in rotating exhibitions and promotes the ongoing Swann Foundation program in the study of cartoon, caricature and illustration, while also offering a provocative and informative selection of works by past masters. New York advertising executive Erwin Swann (1906-1973) assembled an extraordinarily diverse collection of nearly 2,000 works of cartoon art representing 400 artists and spanning two centuries. He developed the collection specifically to promote the preservation and connoisseurship of original cartoon and illustration drawings. Among the collection's highlights are sketches by such European masters as Guillaume Chevalier Gavarni and Richard Doyle, works by celebrated American illustrators including John Held Jr. and Ralph Barton, American newspaper cartoon strip works by such pioneering cartoonists as Richard F. Outcault and Winsor McCay, and contemporary cartoons and illustrations by renowned artists, including Edward Sorel, Anita Siegel, Jean-Claude Suarez, Andre Francois and Eugene Mihaesco.

A fully illustrated checklist, printed in color, will be available to visitors.

More information on the Library of Congress's illustration collections is available through the Swann Foundation's page on the Library's Web site: www.loc.gov/rr/print/swann/swannhome.html, by e-mailing: swann@loc.gov, or by calling Sara Duke, curatorial project assistant for Caricature and Cartoon at the Library, at (202) 707-9115. ◆



Research Awards

Library Announces Third Mellon Fellowships

Eight scholars have won stipends in the third Mellon Foreign Area Fellowship competition, the Library's Office of Scholarly Programs announced.

The postdoctoral fellowships, made possible over the last three years by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, were designed to support research that uses the Library's unrivaled foreign-language and area-studies collections. Stipends of $3,000 per month, for periods of five to nine months, were awarded to Christine Adams, Ruth Ben-Ghiat, Nathan Brooks, Zuoya Cao, Jorge Chinea, Lynn Jones, Kathleen Kuehnast and Michael Moore.

"The Library's Mellon Fellowship program has received an enthusiastic reception, underscoring the initial premise for these grants: that they provide much-needed support to promising scholars at an important time in their careers," said Prosser Gifford, director of the Office of Scholarly Programs.

The postdoctoral fellowships are designed to assist fledgling American scholars as they embark on a second major research topic following their dissertations. The fellowships promote use of the Library's rich cultural resources, assembled from around the globe, while at the same time strengthening American expertise to interpret foreign-language materials. Having fellows in residence at the Library also enhances the knowledge and skills of the Library's own staff in the latest research trends and topics through occasional gatherings during which fellows are expected to share their insights and experiences.

The Mellon Fellowship program began in early 1997. Since that time, more than 160 applicants have competed for the 20 fellowships eventually awarded. "This year was the most difficult in the awarding of these fellowships," Mr. Gifford said, "because of the extraordinary quality of most of the applications." Nearly all applicants presented qualifications and proposals worthy of serious pursuit and support. "We wish that we had the resources to fund many more worthy projects than the few selected."

All applications were reviewed for basic criteria including American citizenship or permanent residency, a Ph.D. and appropriate career level. Applications were then grouped into area of language specialty and geographic region and carefully reviewed and ranked in relation to one another by specialists familiar with both the subject matter and the library resources proposed for use.

After this primary evaluation stage, the highest-ranking projects from all of the regions were considered and the final determination of the awards was made. They were judged on the basis of the originality and significance of the proposed project, together with the degree to which the proposed research would use the special foreign-language resources of the Library of Congress. The selected applications were deemed to propose research that embodies most fully the purposes and goals of the program.

Waldorf, Md., resident **Christine Adams** (Saint Mary's College, Saint Mary's City, Md.) will study "The Society for Maternal Charity in 19th Century France." During this period no charitable organization was more active in fostering the ideology of motherhood and domesticity than the Society for Maternal Charity, established in 1810 by Napoleon and Empress Marie-Louise. By 1837, Societies existed in 36 towns in France. Building upon her work in the city archives of Lyons, Dijon, Rouen and Paris, Ms. Adams will incorporate state documents and other historical material held by the Library of Congress into her examination of the relationships between the national agenda of strong and legitimate families and the efforts of local charitable organizations.

The research project of **Ruth Ben-Ghiat** (Fordham University, New York City), "Italian Film Between Fascism and Democracy," plans to investigate the fate of Italian film institutions and aesthetics from the fascist era, the cinema's role in the elaboration of post-fascist models of national identity, and the impact of Cold War politics on film policies, production and reception from 1945 to 1955. Ms. Ben-Ghiat plans to use materials from the European, Manuscript, and Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound reading rooms as she focuses on nonfiction films and military documentaries.

Nathan Marc Brooks (New Mexico State University, Las Cruces) will examine the social contexts of Dmitri Mendeleev's involvement in controversies that stirred Russian society during the 19th century. Mendeleev (1834-1907) is known primarily outside of Russia for his fundamental work in developing the Periodic System of Chemical Elements, but within Russia he became one of the most important and influential Russian "public scientists," participating in public debates concerning spiritualism, nationalism and industrialization. To complement his recent work in the Mendeleev archives in St. Petersburg, Mr. Brooks will utilize the Library's rich collection of pre-revolutionary Russian materials.

The research of **Zuoya Cao** (Lincoln University, Lincoln University, Pa.) entails a study, "Out of the Crucible: Literary Works About the Lives of *Zhiqing*." Her sources will be the short stories and novels relating to the lives of *zhiqing* — the 17 million Chinese urban youths who were dispatched by the Chinese Communist regime to live and work in rural areas during the second phase of the Cultural Revolution. The study will explore the historical, social, cultural and humanistic significance of the *zhiqing's* rural experience demonstrated in these literary works. Ms. Cao, a novelist and scholar of comparative literature, will use the novels, stories and related periodical, historical and descriptive materials in the Library's East Asian collections.

Roseville, Mich., resident **Jorge L. Chinea** (Wayne State University, Detroit) will pursue "The Quest for Freedom: Manumission Prospects for Maritime Maroons in the Hispanic Caribbean." During the 17th century, many slaves escaped from French and British colonies to Cuba and Santo Domingo. Despite the scale of these

intra-Caribbean movements, and their demographic and cultural importance, little research has been done on them. Following a trip to the Seville archives, Mr. Chinea will explore the primary and secondary accounts of this period held in the Manuscript, Map and Main reading room collections, as well as in the deep and multilingual Hispanic collections on the Caribbean.

"The Visual Expression of Armenian Kingship: Ceremonial and Portraiture" is the subject of research by **Lynn A. Jones** (University of Maryland, College Park). The Bagratid kings, rulers of the northern kingdom of Armenia during the ninth through 13th centuries, were invested in two separate ceremonies. One was conducted by the temporally powerful Muslim governor and its context was wholly Islamic. The second ceremony, performed by the Armenian Orthodox patriarch, was culturally and religiously Armenian in nature. This double investiture appears to be a symbolic unification in the Bagratid kings, a stability that was missing in the historical and political situation. Ms. Jones will use the Library's Armenian and Islamic collections, the microfilms of manuscript illuminations from important monasteries as well as many European journals. Ms. Jones is from Jenkintown, Pa.

Alexandria, Va., resident **Kathleen Kuehnast** (George Washington University, Washington, D.C.) will build upon her 20 months of ethnographic field research over several years in Kyrgyzstan to write about the current rejuvenation of conservative Islamic practices and traditional cultural customs affecting Central Asian women in "Islam and the New Politics of Gender Ideologies in Central Asia." She will use Kyrgyz and Russian collections to deepen her knowledge of the historical and religious factors that are now influencing policies and ideologies concerning women's education, employment and health care to answer how women will shape a future of social stability and economic sustainability.

Michael Moore (Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.) will study the social role of demons in early medieval society, in "Rulers of Darkness: Demons in Early Medieval Society." Between 500 and 900 A.D., Europe was a culture that believed itself to be pervaded by sinister beings. The place of demons in social structures and perceptions of history will be examined, with special emphasis placed on kings, monks, bishops and the poor. Both social roles and sacred spaces were reaffirmed in struggles against demonic intrusion, revealing doubts about human capabilities and about the viability of the social order. The believed existence of demons helped explain the origins of evil. Mr. Moore will use primarily the general collections and the medieval holdings of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division.

The Mellon Foreign Area Fellowship Program is administered by Lester Vogel in the Office of Scholarly Programs (LJ 120), where the fellows are located when they are in residence at the Library. Not all of the Fellows are present at any one time, but a number of fellowship periods overlap. The new fellows will arrive as early as August 1999 and as late as June 2000. ◆

Frontiers
continued from page 119

Session 3: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Chair: Rita Colwell, National Science Foundation
Genetics: Eric Lander, Whitehead Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
David Baltimore, California Institute of Technology
Neurobiology: Gerald Fischbach, National Institute of Neurological Disease and Stroke, National Institutes of Health
Gerald Edelman, The Scripps Research Institute
Psychology: Stephen Pinker, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Paula Tallal, Rutgers University

Wednesday, June 16

Session 4: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Chair: George Rupp, Columbia University
Religion and the State: Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago
Mohammed Arkoun, La Sorbonne, Paris
Canonical Texts: Michael Fishbane, University of Chicago
Mary Douglas, University College, London
Moral Philosophy: Judge John T. Noonan Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
Christine M. Korsgaard, Harvard University

Session 5: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Atmospheres and Oceans: Wallace S. Broecker, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University
Bert Bolin, Stockholm University
Earth Sciences: Marcia McNutt, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
Frank Press, National Academy of Sciences
Sustainability: Peter Raven, Missouri Botanical Garden

Session 6: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Semiotics: Vyacheslav Ivanov, University of California, Los Angeles
Music: Charles Rosen
Kwabena Nketia, University of Ghana
Poetry: Robert Pinsky, Boston University

Thursday, June 17

Session 7: 9:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
Economics: Michael Woodford, Princeton University
Robert M. Solow, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Sociology: Neil Smelser, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Daniel Bell, Harvard University
Anthropology: Ward Goodenough, University of Pennsylvania
Laura Nader, University of California, Berkeley

Session 8: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Cities: Manuel Castells, University of California, Berkeley
Saskia Sassen, University of Chicago
Computer Science and Communication: Raj Reddy, Carnegie Mellon University
Invited commentator: Nathan Myhrvold, Microsoft

Plenary Session: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
International Relations and Foreign Policy: Lee Hamilton, Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars
Samuel Huntington, Harvard University
Richard Lugar, U.S. Senate
Paul Sarbanes, U.S. Senate

Innovative Animators

Early American Animation Featured in American Memory

By KAREN LUND

Evidence of animation's popularity in America is not hard to find. It can be seen in national icons such as Mickey Mouse; Bugs Bunny is on a postage stamp; and animated feature films such as "Antz" attract audiences both young and old.

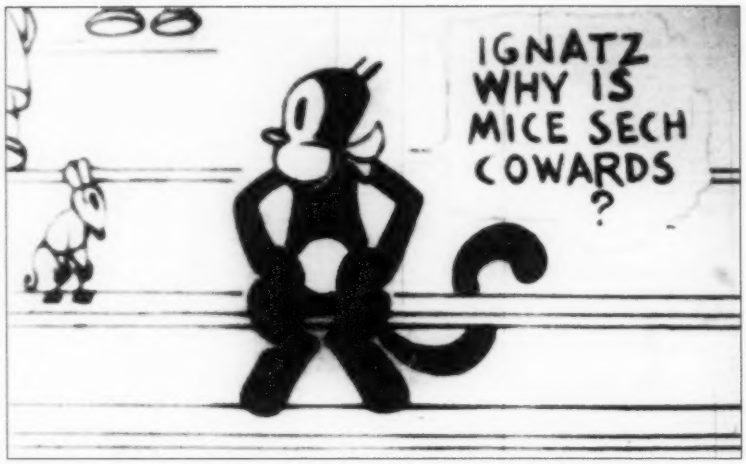
These images are the descendants of early black-and-white animated films made more than 75 years ago. And the desire to create animated images for entertainment goes back even further. A new presentation from the National Digital Library's American Memory program (**www.loc.gov**), "Origins of American Animation," makes available on the World Wide Web a sampling of 23 of the earliest animated films, made from 1900 to 1921, from the Library's collections. The films include clay, puppet and cutout animation, as well as pen drawings, and reveal some of the earliest innovations made in the animation field.

Interest in the idea of animated images existed well before the 20th century. In the 19th century, moving slides in "magic lanterns" created "animated" images for audiences. Images were put on glass slides, lit by a lamp and projected to tell a story, while the use of multiple lanterns, slide changes and levers produced the illusion of motion.

Other devices were also invented that used rotating discs or wheels with images on them to simulate movement, such as the Phenakistoscope, circa 1828, and the Zoetrope, popular in the 1860s. A similar, albeit simpler, device was the flipbook, or Kineograph, invented in 1868, which used successive photographic images that the viewer would flip through to emulate movement.

Some cite Frenchman Emile Reynaud's work as an early form of animation. In 1877, he developed a Praxinoscope, a rotating drum with a strip of painted images that allowed the viewer to see the motions reflected in a series of mirrors. In 1882, he combined the machine with a projector.

An important innovation in the recording of movement was Eadweard Muybridge's Zoopraxiscope. Made in 1879, the device used many photographs of successive phases of movement to replicate motion. These images were obtained through the use of multiple cameras.



From "Krazy Kat and Ignatz Mouse at the Circus" (1916), featuring the popular cat and mouse duo from the comic strip of the day

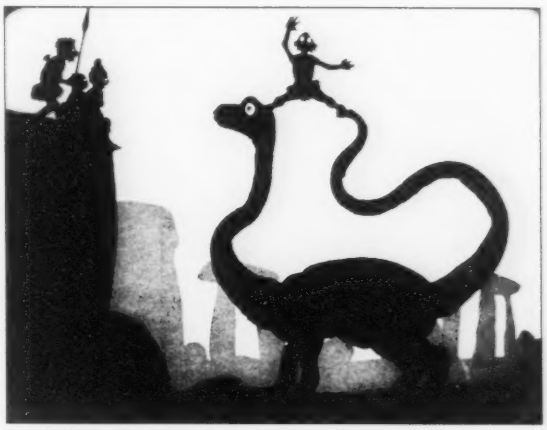
The invention of the motion picture camera and a motion picture viewer in 1891 by Thomas A. Edison's laboratory proved that movement could be recorded and replicated easily using single devices, and within five years projectors were developed to enable showings before large audiences.

It was not long before filmmakers tested the limits of film's possibilities. Trick films were one result, using camera techniques such as stop motion, dissolves and multiple exposures to achieve "magical" results, such as people or things appearing and disappearing.

James Stuart Blackton was an important producer of trick films who became one of the originators of the animated film. Blackton had performed in the vaudeville theater as "The Komikal Kartoonist," doing "lightning sketches," called such because the drawings were made very rapidly. With Albert E. Smith, he founded the Vitagraph Co. in 1896 to make films. His company produced many films for the Edison Co. as licensees, and in 1900 Blackton made "The Enchanted Drawing" for Edison. Blackton sketched on a sheet held by an easel. He draws a face on the paper, then a glass and wine bottle. The bottle and glass suddenly become real, much to the dismay of the face on the paper. The artist gives the face a drink, which makes him happy again. The film continues in this vein as other objects such as a hat and cigar are drawn and then magically become real. The tricks were achieved by stopping the camera between frames and making substitutions, a common technique of trick films.

Six years later, Blackton made what some consider to be the first American animated film, "Humorous Phases of Funny Faces." It features an artist's hand drawing the faces of a man and a woman with chalk. The two faces then begin to interact, as the man blows cigar smoke and tips his hat. Blackton used a combination of chalk drawings and cutouts to achieve the movement. By 1910 he ceased his animation experiments, while others began theirs. Both "The Enchanted Drawing" and "Humorous Phases of Funny Faces" can be viewed from the Library's Web site.

Winsor McCay, considered one of the greatest of the early animators,



"Dud Leaves Home" (1919) from the "Dreamy Dud" series, which stars a boy with an overactive imagination; "The First Circus" (1921), from Tony Sarg's "Almanac" series, which employed shadow silhouette

began his career as a newspaper comic strip artist. One of his most famous strips was "Little Nemo in Slumberland," published in the *New York Herald* in 1905. McCay claimed that his first attempts at an animated film were inspired by some flipbooks his son owned, but his assistant John Fitzsimmons claimed that his efforts resulted from a bet he had made with a fellow artist that he could make enough drawings to produce a four- to five-minute film of the Little Nemo characters. However it came about, in 1911 McCay released the film "Little Nemo." He made 4,000 drawings for the film using translucent rice paper and india ink. To create fluid movement, he devised a wooden holder and put crosshairs in the corners of the paper to keep the drawings in register and used a stopwatch to time the movements on paper to the split second. Subsequent films included "The Story of a Mosquito" and "Gertie the Dinosaur," the latter one of the most famous and influential of early animated films.

With "The Sinking of the Lusitania," he began working with cels, which were clear sheets of celluloid that could be laid over a background, thus eliminating the need to repeatedly draw every background detail on each sheet. His films "The Centaurs" and "Gertie on Tour," made in 1921, survive only as fragments and are available on the Library's site.

After 1912 the animation field grew rapidly. Many studios sprung up, including the Raoul Barrè Studio, the John Randolph Bray Studio and William Randolph Hearst's International Film Service.

Raoul Barrè was an artist who specialized in comic drawings. He opened his own studio in New York in 1913, the first professional animation studio. He joined with Charles Bowers to form the Barrè-Bowers Studio in 1916. One of Barrè's innovations was a peg system of registering drawings, which kept the paper in place, a system still in use today. To avoid having to redraw the background in every sheet, he used the "slash" system, in which he would lay down one sheet over another and cut away what was unnecessary to reveal the background of the sheet below. This method was soon surpassed by the use of clear cels. Some of the Barrè films available on the Web site are two "Phables" and two others based on Tom Powers's newspaper comics.

John Randolph Bray began his career as an artist for a newspaper. He soon began selling cartoons to magazines. His first animated film was "The Artist's Dream," released in 1913. After signing a contract with Pathe to make cartoons, Bray set up his own studio with other artists. He patented many of his improvements on the animation process, realizing early on the business potential of these developments. One of these innovations was the use of translucent paper to make it easier to position objects in successive drawings.

In 1914 Earl Hurd received a patent for his innovation of using clear sheets of celluloid (cels), which eliminated the need to redraw background scenes, since sheets containing various movements could be laid on top of one another. Bray and Hurd formed the Bray-Hurd Processing Co. in 1914 and created a monopoly on the animation process since they owned the patents to these methods. It was not until 1932 that the patents expired and their animation process became public domain. Inspired by the Buster Brown comic strip, Hurd created the Bobby Bump series of animated films, represented on the Web site by "Bobby Bumps Starts a Lodge."

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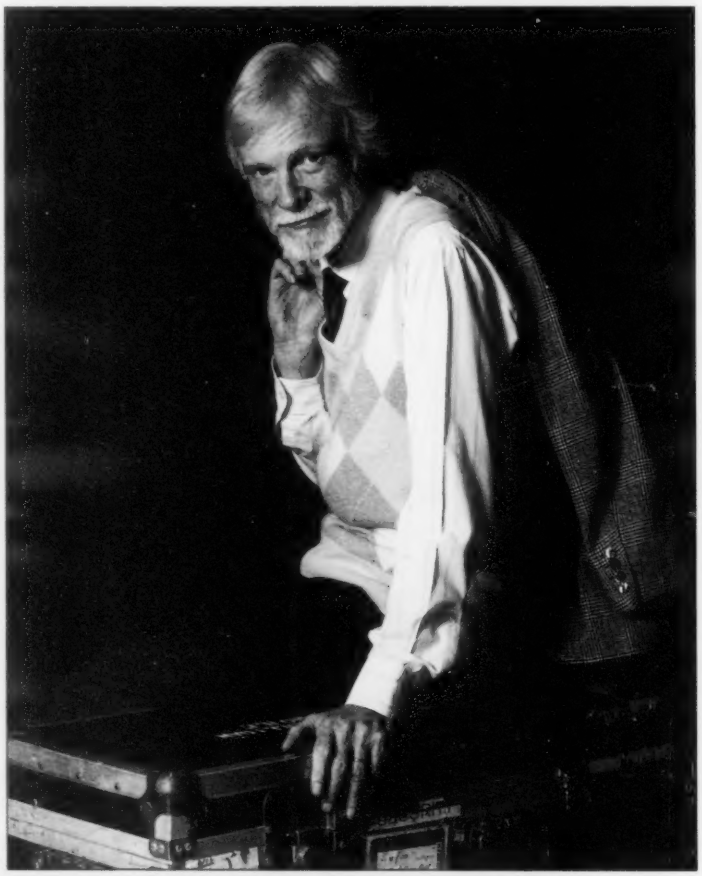
The Web site "Origins of American Animation" contains MPEG, Quicktime and RealPlayer versions of each film for the viewer to download at **memory.loc.gov/ammem/oahtml/oahome.html**. The films contain a piano score composed especially for them by Philip Carli. In addition, notes by former Library of Congress curator Scott Simmon are available for each film. Also on the Web site is a finding aid to silent animated films in the collections of the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division.

Note: Several good resources on silent animation, which have helped inform this article, are Charles Solomon's *The History of Animation;* Donald Crafton's *Before Mickey: The Animated Film, 1898-1928,* and Jeff Lenburg's *The Encyclopedia of Animated Cartoons.*

"Gerry Mulligan, whose career spanned five decades, worked gracefully in many styles and with many artists, defying the categories that so often narrow our vision of a creative spirit.

Gerry Mulligan would not, could not, be categorized, and he flourished through changing times, in many cultures, and with many musical voices ranging from the baritone saxophone that was his principal instrument, to the full orchestra."

— James H. Billington in opening remarks at the inauguration of the Gerry Mulligan exhibition April 6, 1999



Gail Fineberg

Participants in the opening of the new Gerry Mulligan exhibition included Jon Newsom, chief of the Music Division; Dr. Billington; Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Library Services; Scott Robinson, the saxophonist who played Mulligan's sax during the event, wearing the Tibetan scarf just given him by Thamthog Rinpoche; Franca (Mrs. Gerry) Mulligan; the Venerable Lama Thamthog Rinpoche, holding Mulligan's baritone saxophone; and Lodi Gyaltsen Gyari, special envoy of the Dalai Lama.

The Gerry Mulligan Collection

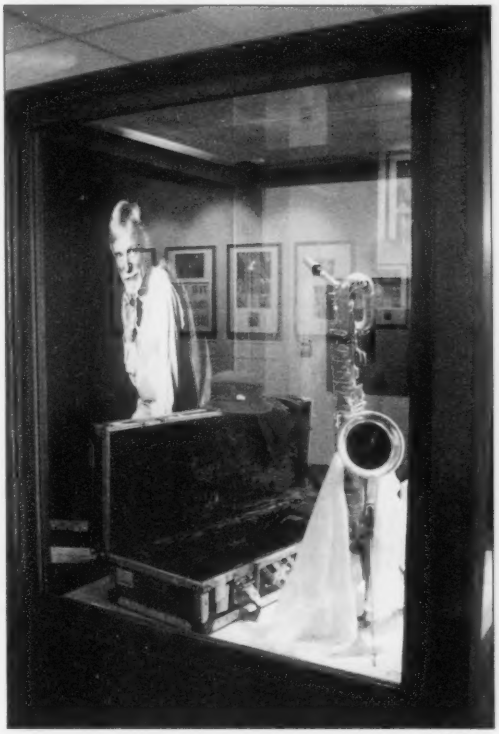
Library Opens Permanent Exhibition Area

BY TOMÁS C. HERNÁNDEZ

"Dear Gerry, I found a sax — Let's shoot it again."

Kenny Rogers wrote this note at the bottom of a black-and-white photograph he took of a bespectacled Gerry Mulligan — sans saxophone — sitting on a stool and holding a score in his left hand (see cover). The country-and-western singer took the photograph of Mulligan for his book on famous people. He sent a car to take Gerry to the studio in New York where he was shooting the photographs, and they had a good time together. Kenny Rogers wanted to take more photographs of Gerry with his saxophone, and he sent Gerry the photograph with his note, one of the many items of interest newly displayed in the Music Division foyer.

What a transformation — no more drab gray metal lockers; in their place are handsomely veneered wooden display cases. Out with sterile fluorescent lighting, in with dimmed spotlights. Out with 'keep-moving' tangerine carpeting, in with linger-awhile brown. Welcome to the permanent home of the Gerry Mulligan Collection.



Gail Fineberg

The centerpiece of the Gerry Mulligan exhibition is a large case displaying Mulligan's gold-plated baritone saxophone. Here it is draped with a ceremonial Tibetan scarf placed by the Venerable Lama Thamthog Rinpoche during the opening of the exhibition.

Walking along the brightly lit corridor of the Madison Building, one notices the darkened foyer of the Performing Arts Reading Room. Through the double glass doors, the smiling eyes of a bearded man in a life-size black-and-white photograph beckon the curious visitor. Wearing a striped shirt under an argyle sweater vest, plaid sport coat slung casually over his right shoulder, the man seems to direct the visitor's sight to a gleaming gold-plated baritone saxophone, resting on its stand within a large wood and glass case in the middle of the room.

This is the instrument Mulligan played in all public performances during the last decade of his life until his death on Jan.19, 1996. Crafted by C.G. Conn in Elkhardt, Ind., it was Mulligan's preferred instrument, capable of greater projection than his older, silver-plated saxophone, also a Conn. Across from it is the Grammy Award Mulligan received for his album, *Walk on the Water.* Between these items and the photograph sits the saxophone case, lined with red velvet, and atop its lid are three personal items — a dark blue hat with the Izod alligator patch, a pair of dark brown gloves, and a burgundy scarf with a dark blue paisley lining.

Behind the display case on the back wall is a set of eight wood-block prints in various hues — dark gray, lavender, purple, brown — showing a larger-than-life close-up of Mulligan's face. In the lower right hand corner, easy to miss, is a small section of a saxophone. The prints are arranged in two parallel rows of four each, one above the other, framing a brass plate with black raised letters that say, "The Gerry Mulligan Collection." Dated 1996, the prints, by the artist Antonio Frasconi, were the artist's gift to Mulligan's wife, Franca Rota Mulligan, president of Mulligan Publishing Co.

Walking around the room, looking at the items on the walls and in the display cases, the visitor becomes aware of the numerous pictures of Mulligan looking straight out at the viewer. These likenesses seem to take on a life of their own, giving the entire room a vital presence, an energy, made almost palpable by the mementos of Mulligan's life and career. Indeed, the room exudes a strong personality — someone "demanding and temperamental," as Ken Poston, director of the California Institute for the Preservation of Jazz in Long Beach, described Mulligan in the program notes to the Mulligan concert April 6. Mr. Poston wrote that these qualities "enabled [Mulligan] to get the most out of the musicians who were working with him. He always knew what he wanted musically and he knew how to get it. His ensembles were always the epitome of discipline and musicianship."

One of the giants of jazz, Mulligan had a distinctive, personal style. Pianist-composer Dave Brubeck once said, "When you listen to Gerry Mulligan, you hear the past, the present and the future." He was a legend in his own time "who can never be replaced," wrote Bret Primack in a eulogy for the Internet's Jazz Central Station.

As a saxophone player of prodigious technique and uniquely personal style, Mulligan was an international jazz celebrity. As a composer-arranger and improviser, his extensive discography

The teenaged Gerry Mulligan is shown (left center) ca. 1942-43 playing his first instrument, the clarinet, with a group in South Temple, Pa., a small town north of Reading, where he lived at the time.

attests to his originality, versatility and rhythmic vitality. He continually challenged himself to expand his musical horizons, writing not only jazz for groups of various sizes, but music for film and symphony orchestras, particularly the New York Philharmonic, whose former director, Zubin Mehta, was a close colleague and friend.

Born on April 6, 1927, in New York City, Gerard Joseph Mulligan grew up in Philadelphia, where, as a teenager, he first began composing arrangements for a local radio station. The synthesis of the individual timbres of the various instruments, the interaction among them and the complex textures that arose from that interaction engaged his imagination. Having learned that arrangers were the people responsible for putting together these instruments, he decided to become a composer-arranger and obtained his first professional engagement with the Claude Thornhill Band in 1948. During this period, Mulligan, with fellow arranger Gil Evans and other artists (among them George Russell, who led his Living Time Orchestra in a sizzling show at the Coolidge Auditorium on May 10, part of the Library of Congress Concert Series) developed a new sound that made its recording debut with the landmark album *The Birth of the Cool*, featuring a nine-piece ensemble with Miles Davis (who affectionately called Gerry "Jeru").

In the early 1950s, he moved from New York to Los Angeles, where he formed his legendary "pianoless" quartet featuring Chet Baker, creating a sound that was described as "West Coast Jazz." In 1960 he formed the Concert Jazz Band, a 13-piece ensemble based on the idea of the "pianoless" quartet, with Bob Brookmeyer, Art Farmer and Zoot Sims. Until his death, he continued to perform with his Quartet and Concert Jazz Band and appeared as guest soloist and arranger for other bands, symphony orchestras, chamber groups and jazz festivals. Musicians he collaborated with include Astor Piazzolla, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Barry Manilow, Zubin Mehta, Benny Carter, Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, Count Basie, Dave Brubeck, Wynton Marsalis, Sarah Vaughan and Ella Fitzgerald.

Some of these artists are featured in the current exhibition. On the right wall, one sees a photograph of Mulligan at the piano with Davis, Dizzie Gillespie and Teddy Wilson at a practice session in the late 1940s. Below it is a photo of Mulligan playing a duet with saxophonist Ben Webster in December 1959 for the recording Gerry Mulligan Meets Ben Webster, one of a series Mulligan made with other musicians including Paul Desmond, Stan Getz, Johnny Hodges, Zoot Sims and Thelonious Monk. In a historic photograph taken by Art Kane for *Esquire* magazine in 1959, and celebrated in the film documentary "Great Day in Harlem," Mulligan is one of 57 prominent jazz musicians of the day who are pictured on New York's East 126th Street.

On the opposite wall, one sees a photograph of Mulligan playing his saxophone with Zubin Mehta and the New York Philharmonic in December 1989, and in the display case below it, the program with the Gerry Mulligan Quartet featuring Mulligan's composition *Entente* for baritone saxophone and orchestra, as well as *K-4 Pacific*. There is a also quaint photo of a barefoot Mulligan playing his saxophone and wearing a dark gray tunic taken in the Guadeloupe islands in 1978.

A *Time* magazine article on Feb. 2, 1953, (quoted by Mr. Primack in his eulogy) reported that "the hot music topic in Los Angeles last week was the cool jazz of a gaunt, hungry-looking young (25) fellow named Gerry Mulligan. ... [His] kind of sound is just about unique in the jazz field." Mulligan elevated the baritone saxophone to the status of a solo instrument, revealing its capabilities in the upper register — a much lighter, yet warm and elegant, sound.

"What came out of Gerry Mulligan's horn was precious... . His laconic, velvety sound ... put the horn on the jazz map," Primack continued in his eulogy.

Among Mulligan's admirers is President Clinton, who wrote, "No one ever played that horn like he did, and no one ever will." This handwritten note appears after the typewritten text of a formal letter of condolence to Franca Mulligan, which has been framed

Gerry Mulligan with President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton at a White House reception for the 18th annual Kennedy Center Honors, December 1995. Mulligan was on the Artists' Committee for the 1995 Kennedy Center Honors.

below a photograph of Mulligan with the president and first lady. In the case below it is a color snapshot of Mulligan playing with a distinguished group of saxophone players on the steps of the Capitol during President Clinton's 1992 inauguration.

In the three display cases along the walls are other items from the collection. Found here are facsimiles of his earliest arrangements for the Thornhill band; the original manuscript of *Jeru*, one of his most famous compositions; and manuscripts of *Young Blood* and of the full score for *K-4 Pacific*, titled after the famous steam locomotive engine. Mulligan loved to travel by train. Displayed in the same case as a Mulligan head shot on the cover of the May 1983 issue of *L'uomo Vogue* magazine is the program cover for the premiere of his *Octet for Sea Cliff* for the Sea Cliff Chamber Players. Mulligan was especially proud that his name and likeness were printed together with those of Beethoven and Schubert. The text reads, "Schubert! Beethoven! Mulligan!... Mulligan? ...Yes, Gerry Mulligan!" One also finds LP jackets of his landmark recordings, *The Birth of the Cool* with Miles Davis and his band; *Music of Young Blood*, the 1952 recording he made with Stan Getz; the Grammy winner *Walk on the Water; The Age of Steam;* and the 1958 Newport Jazz Festival recording of Duke Ellington and his orchestra with Mulligan as solo saxophonist.

The exhibition, mounted by the Library's Interpretive Programs Office, is the brainchild of Jon Newsom, chief of the Music Division, who negotiated the donation of the collection with Mulligan before he died and afterward collaborated with Mrs. Mulligan. The exhibition officially opened on April 6 — Mulligan's birthday — with a ceremony in Madison Hall led by the Librarian. A close friend of Mulligan and his wife, the Venerable Lama Thamthog Rinpoche, abbot of three monasteries in Tibet and director and master of the Center for Tibetan Studies in Milan, also attended. That evening, the Gerry Mulligan Tribute Band performed an all-Mulligan concert in the Coolidge Auditorium as part of the Library of Congress Concert Series. Featured were longtime Mulligan colleagues and former members of his various groups: trombonist Bob Brookmeyer (who also led the band), bassist Dean Johnson, pianist Ted Rosenthal, drummer Ron Vincent, baritone saxophonist Scott Robinson, alto and tenor saxophonist Dick Oatts and trumpeter Randy Brecker.

The entire Mulligan Collection consists of some 700 items now being processed by the Music Division. These items are divided into several categories reflecting Mulligan's diverse interests and accomplishments from his adolescent years until his death. Included are music for recordings, lead sheets and sketches, arrangements and parts for his Concert Jazz Band (the single largest category), miscellaneous arrangements for his Tentet, small-band arrangements, a few symphonic arrangements, correspondence with jazz notables and papers relating to different concerts and projects. The saxophone was a later addition, donated by his wife with the express wish to have the instrument played. Thus Scott Robinson played it at the ceremony as well as the concert.

Gerry Mulligan performing in the 1980s

The exhibition is open during the hours of the Performing Arts Reading Room, 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. ◆

Mr. Hernández is a music specialist in the Music Division.

Animation
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William Randolph Hearst's International Film Service was established in 1915. The service took out a cel license from Bray and began releasing animated films in 1916. Many of these films were based on comic strip characters from Hearst newspapers, such as Krazy Kat, the Katzenjammer Kids and Happy Hooligan. George LaCava, formerly of Barre-Bowers, was chosen as the studio head. IFS was closed in 1918 after scandals occurring with Hearst's International News Service caused its decline. The Web site includes three Krazy Kat films, one Katzenjammer Kids film and several other IFS films based on Tom Powers's newspaper cartoons.

Other early animation efforts available on the "Origins of American Animation" site include marionette action. Howard S. Moss created the Motoy stop-motion puppet series, of which "Mary & Gretel," available online, is one example. The creator of King Kong, Willis O'Brien, had earlier been a cartoonist. He created figures from india rubber for his puppet animation films "The Dinosaur and the Missing Link" and "R.F.D., 10,000 B.C.," made in 1917 for Edison. Tony Sarg, who had a marionette act in vaudeville theater, made his animated films using the shadow silhouette with Herbert M. Dawley, producer of the films. His work is represented on the Web site by the inventive film "The First Circus" (see photo on p. 135).

Although early animated films contain creative elements amazing for their time, they can still be thought to be in their infancy. Critics of the time argued that these early films were merely sight gags that the animator had devised and that they lacked clear, well-developed plots. Those elements would come later with the rise of animators such as Walt Disney and staffs of writers and production personnel. But without these early efforts, which carved a path for future animation, there would be no Mickey Mouse or Bugs Bunny today. ◆

Karen C. Lund is a digital conversion specialist for the National Digital Library Program in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division.

Living Pictographs

Asian Scholar Unlocks Secrets of the Naxi Manuscripts

By MI CHU WIENS

An Asian scholar is deciphering a collection of pictographic manuscripts in the Asian Division that he classifies as the finest example of the only living pictographic language in the world today.

Zhu Bao-Tian, a noted cultural anthropologist from the Yunnan Provincial Museum in China, is preparing a research guide to the Naxi (pronounced NA-shi) pictographic manuscripts in the Library's Chinese collections.

Naxi pictographs differ from Chinese characters and may be compared to Egyptian or Mayan hieroglyphs. A simplified form of Naxi pictographic writing is still in use in Lijiang District of the Yunnan Province.

"The Naxi manuscripts are a living fossil for the study of ancient culture," said Mr. Zhu, who is one of the few non-Naxi with Naxi fluency, having learned the language at the Central Institute for Nationalities in Beijing, and from the Naxi Dongba, or priests, when he lived among the Naxi people for two years in the late 1950s.

Today there are 260,000 Naxi people. They are one of 50 or so ethnic minorities in China. Their predominant tribe, the Moso, is matrilineal. Mostly farmers and traders, the Naxi live in the Himalayan foothills near the Yangtze River. Although there are still practicing Naxi priests, they use a simplified pictographic system to produce a limited set of manuscripts, which they use for standard ceremonies such as funerals and blessings. Some Naxi people conduct ceremonies independently at small altars in their kitchens.

The Library's collection of 3,038 manuscripts is the largest outside of China, and considered the finest in the world as it is unrivaled in quality and variety among Naxi collections in Europe, Taiwan and China, Mr. Zhu said.

The manuscripts are from the remote mountain valleys of the Yunnan Province in southwest China near the Tibetan and Burmese borders. The present prefectural city of Lijiang was once the center of the powerful Naxi kingdom, which flourished with varying degrees of independence from the eighth century until 1724, when it came under the direct Chinese rule of the Qing Dynasty.

Naxi pictographs at first glance resemble the hieroglyphics in the *Book of Death* of ancient Egypt. They are, however, more sophisticated and complete because they range from a system of symbols to a complicated rebus with verbs, particles and phonetics. The booklets portray a distinctive religion with a unique theological interpretation of the cosmos.

The Dongbas, who created the booklets in the Library's collection, used them as prompts for religious rituals and shamanistic ceremonies of which they were the sole purveyors. When the priests died, the sacred books were buried with them in mountain caves or sometimes burned in funeral pyres. Many of the edges of the books in the Library's collection are charred.

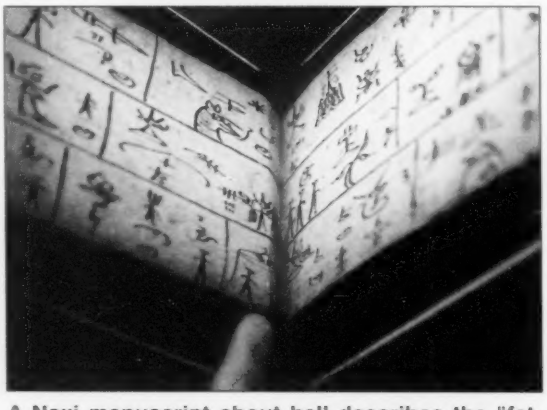
The Library purchased the collection between 1924 and 1948 from Joseph Rock, a self-taught botanist who spent 24 years in the Yunnan Province in the 1920s, '30s and '40s for *National Geographic*, studying the culture of the Naxi and collecting manuscripts.

Another early Naxi scholar was Quentin Roosevelt, the grandson of Theodore Roosevelt. After traveling to Lijiang to collect manuscripts, he reported on his journey in the April 1940 edition of *Natural History: The Magazine of the American Museum of Natural History.*

N. Alicia Byers

Zhu Bao-Tian inspects a Naxi manuscript in the Asian Reading Room.

"These old documents ... are extremely rare and scientifically important because almost nothing is known of the [Naxi] people whose history they reveal. Furthermore, the art of making the books has died out and the scrolls, which used to take a skilled [Dongba] six months to make while in a trance, are scarcely ever seen now. The writing, unlike anything known elsewhere, resembles superficially the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics, but it has a certain action and humor that separates it at once from anything so stylized. The characters, at first glance, look like a child's picture book, a sort of Mickey Mouse. There are many little drawings of cows, horses, birds, tigers, dwarfs and strange gods that show a vigorous and refreshing artistic style."



A Naxi manuscript about hell describes the "fat-belly demons" who live there.

The Dongba priests wrote

on coarse, handmade paper. Sheets were sown together at the left edge to form a book. Pages were ruled horizontally, and the pictographs were drawn from left to right in three or five sections within the rules. Somewhat thicker sheets of paper form a stiff cover, which has the title. They were usually named after the type of ceremony for which they were used. A large percentage of the ceremonies deal with exorcism, but the manuscripts in the Library's collection also include a pictographic creation story, a sacrifice to the serpent king, accounts of famous people ascending to the realm of deities and love-suicide stories.

According to a 1955 assessment of the Library's manuscripts for the *Bulletin of the Institute of Ethnology Academia Sinica* (Taipei, Taiwan, 1958) by art historian Li Lin-Ts'an, "The Yunnan Province was famous for Yunnan pines. Their wood, after being set on fire, liberates a soot which is easy to collect. This soot, when mixed with some glue and water, forms an excellent ink. During winter, the leisure season for farmers, the [Naxi] sorcerers, without any farming work to do, sat down by their fireplace and using a bamboo pen dipped it into their ink while humming to themselves, and they began to write a Sacred Book for pleasure or for some special festival usage."

Mr. Li wrote: "The books for sacrifices to those who committed suicide from frustrated love are the most romantic and poetic of the [Naxi] people. The [Naxi] youth all believe that at the upper part of the Jade Dragon Mountain, just under the white snow peaks, there is a wonderful land, with thousands of kinds of flowers covering its fields, called 'The Kingdom of the Suicide Lovers.' If any couple, who because of love frustration, climb to this wonderful place and kill themselves, they will never part from each other again and will keep their youth and beauty forever, and will be happy always."

Mr. Li reported that 440 of the volumes in the Library's collection were for funeral ceremonies. "This great number is due to the fact that the [Naxi] people look upon death as an affair of great moment." The Naxis believe the soul goes immediately to hell. One of the Dongbas' primary duties is to lead souls out of hell. Another 74 volumes were used for divination, wrote Li. "The [Naxi] people are a tribe whose members like divination above all other things."

The rare manuscripts cover the history of a writing system over a span of 400 years. Although the Dongbas were free to use their own systems, the pictographic scripts have considerable uniformity in depicting environmental features and ritual objects. The uniformity is due to the environmental and cultural contexts shared by the priests.

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Naxi Manuscripts Pose Preservation Challenges

BY MARK ROOSA

Shortly after Zhu Bao-Tian, a noted Chinese cultural anthropologist, arrived at the Library (see story on page 140), Jesse Munn, Conservation Division liaison to the Asian Division, and Mi Chu Wiens, a Chinese specialist in the Asian Division, met with Mr. Zhu to discuss how his review of the Library's collection of Naxi manuscripts might best be balanced with their conservation needs.

The Naxi manuscript collection contains 3,038 unique, precious and vulnerable volumes. The unusual, long, horizontal format presented special handling considerations. Because the manuscripts had suffered damage throughout the centuries, conservation specialists devised a two-pronged preventive maintenance approach: to devise a reading cradle to carefully support the items so Mr. Zhu could examine their individual pages, and to design a suitable storage container that would protect the manuscripts from future damage and deterioration.

The construction of a reading cradle is normally straightforward. The Naxi manuscripts, however, are problematic in that their pages are in a long horizontal format and side sewn, which restricts the extent to which the volumes can be opened without causing damage. To address this, several manuscripts were examined to determine the maximum amount a typical manuscript could be opened without stressing the pages or binding. Then a special support cradle was constructed at the correct reading height and angle that provides access to the manuscripts while providing safe support for the vulnerable hand-sewn binding.

The edges are vulnerable due to the ceremonial burnings designed to release the manuscripts' messages to the heavens, and the covers of a number of the volumes contain drawings that must be protected from abrasion during handling, transport and storage. Conservators Terry Boone, Margaret Brown and Ms. Munn worked together to design a single tray case and storage box of chemically inert materials to individually house the manuscripts. The tray case contains a recessed area in which the manuscript rests, along with a tissue paper inner wrapper that prevents abrasion and protects the edges of volumes from further damage. A manuscript is easily lifted from its tray by means of a wide ribbon attached to the bottom of the case. Five individual tray cases fit into a larger storage box to ease in storage and retrieval. The storage box provides an additional layer of protection from the environment and a safeguard when the manuscripts are transported to and from the reading room.

Team work paid off, as is often true in the conservation of important artifacts from the Library's collections. In this case, after the design of the tray case and storage box was completed, Ms. Munn wrote the specifications and Ms. Brown made the drawings for the case and storage box, which included detailed descriptions of how to make the case. The specifications and drawings will be used by an outside contractor to manufacture this new product. As a guide for the manufacturer, conservators Maria Nugent and Nancy Lev made prototype tray cases.

The reading cradle and the storage housings will make it possible for the Library to protect this incomparable collection now and in the future. ◆

Mr. Roosa is chief of the Conservation Division. This article was written with the assistance of Ms. Brown and Ms. Munn.

Adopt a Rural School Library

Chiao Urges Aid to Poor Regions of China

By LAURA L. WONG

On March 4, Lungching Chiao told an audience at the Library how they can improve education opportunities in some of the poorest regions of China.

The lecture was jointly sponsored by the Library's Asian American Association and the Chinese American Librarians Association.

Targeting those regions with the greatest needs, Adopt a Rural School Library is based on the premise that education is a powerful means for change. Ms. Chiao emphasized that the village school library is a resource that is fully accessible by the entire village community, in addition to the students and teachers. As of 1999, 1,500 such school libraries plus 21 rural public libraries have been established in China by this program.

Ms. Lungching Chiao has a worked in the education, psychology and library services fields. She has also served as program coordinator for New York City's Asian Bilingual Education Programs (1975 to 1980). Currently she is senior program manager for the U.S. Department of Education's Fulbright-Hays Programs.

ARSL is one of several programs sponsored by Education and Science Society (ESS), a nonprofit organization formed in 1980 by Chinese Americans, many of whom are educators and professionals. Ms. Chiao acknowledged that, while China has made considerable strides in strengthening the education system as a whole, basic education resources in some of the poorest and most remote regions of the country are still lacking. In most rural schools, for example, the only materials children see are textbooks, and many families cannot afford to send their children to secondary school. Village residents have little access to general or technical information that might improve their farming productivity or living environment.

Ms. Chiao then told how a village school can become a program participant and how donors outside China can help. In various provinces in China, local representatives that have been appointed by ESS identify eligible schools and screen applications. The lists of final candidate schools are then forwarded to the ESS committee in the United States, and once selected for the award, the school signs an agreement with ESS. Accountability, with ongoing reporting and communications between the adopted school and ESS, is important to the program's success. Proper management must be demonstrated, from selection and purchase of books and materials (using booklists drawn up by Chinese education officials), to circulation of materials among students and village residents alike. Also key to success is the involvement of educators at the local level.

In turn, ESS provides the donors — from the United States and elsewhere — with progress reports on their school and an ESS annual report. Interaction between the donor and the school is encouraged and administrative expenses are kept low, in part because program committee members are volunteers.

The ESS has also developed other programs that enhance education. Local teachers, administrators and researchers in China have been invited to join the "Workshops on Basic Education," a forum for the exchange of views, ideas and teaching methods with educators from abroad. These have been held in various sites in China since 1993, and an audience member who is a Library of Congress staffer described her participation in the 1998 workshop as both an eye-opening and inspiring experience.

Another ESS program provides scholarships to secondary-school children to subsidize their room and board, books and expenses. The "Read to Discover" program encourages teachers to help students grow beyond the basic curriculum by developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills. ◆

Ms. Wong is a reference librarian in the Asian Division.

Naxi

continued from page 141

One of the first 69 manuscripts that the Library bought from Rock in 1924 contains a pictographic creation myth. "It was immediately recognized as an important document for the study not only of the Naxi language and literature, but also the folklore and shamanistic ceremonies," said Mr. Zhu.

A 40-foot scroll from Rock's collection tells of the soul's journey from death to heaven. It tells how the soul was tortured by demons in hell. The torture redeems his karma and his soul journeys to the realm of heaven.

Mr. Zhu is dividing the manuscripts into 13 categories: sacrifice to the highest deity, sacrifice to the serpent king, romance and love-related ceremonies, prayers for longevity, aspiration for wisdom, sacrifice to the god of bravery and victory, ancestral worship, repelling sickness, casting out evil spirits, blocking malicious ghosts, prayers for a better reincarnation, divination and miscellaneous ceremonies.

Mr. Zhu's catalog, *A Research Guide to the Naxi Manuscripts in the Library of Congress*, will describe each manuscript, transcribe the pictographs and provide a Naxi phonetic transcription, a Chinese translation, a description of the contents of each manuscript and its size and physical features.

Mr. Zhu has also reviewed and published a catalog on the Harvard University collection and has surveyed the Peabody Museum's holdings and Quentin Roosevelt's private collection. At Harvard from 1995 to 1997, Mr. Zhu cataloged the Yenching Library's 598 Naxi manuscripts, arranging them into 13 categories and redrawing the pictographs.

Mr. Zhu's two-year cataloging project for the Library of Congress is made possible by a $60,000 grant to the Library from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, a private organization that promotes the study of Chinese culture and society. The project will complete the bibliographic guide for access to Naxi manuscripts in the United States. ◆

Ms. Wiens of the Library's Asian Division is directing the Naxi cataloging project.

To Make a Broader Difference

Rep. Wu Keynotes Asian Pacific American Month

BY CHRISTINA TYLER

Almost all families in the United States share a similar heritage, despite ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

That's what Rep. David Wu (D-Ore.) told the audience during his Asian Pacific American Heritage Month keynote address at the Library on May 12.

The most important similarity of the vast majority of Americans is that their families came to this land from another, he said. It is also important, however, for a person to learn about his or her ancestors' birthplace.

"The opportunity to participate in the American dream is a gift of the American spirit, and I'm grateful everyday to share it," Rep. Wu said. "I do my job every day with the faith that we are all serving a larger purpose."

Rep. Wu, 44, is the first Chinese-American U.S. representative and was elected from Oregon's First District, encompassing six counties from Portland to the Pacific coast. His family emigrated from Taiwan in the early 1960s because his father wanted to continue his education and offer his family greater opportunities.

But, Rep. Wu said, a family's heritage need not be lost in the move. "I'm here to reassure you that whatever your children say, they will remember your sacrifices," he said.

Rep. Wu graduated from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in 1977. He attended Harvard Medical School and earned his law degree from Yale in 1982.

Rep. David Wu (D-Ore.)

He told a story about his first year in medical school, when he decided he could make more of a contribution to society by becoming something other than a doctor, such as a lawyer. "When I told my father I wanted to leave med school to make a broader difference, he started sending me articles about doctors helping impoverished communities and about attorneys chasing ambulances."

After he completed law school, Rep. Wu had a clerkship with a federal judge in Portland. There he co-founded a successful law firm, Cohen & Wu, working mostly with professionals in the technology and medical fields. After winning his first run for election of any kind, he was sworn into office on Jan. 6.

"My father was in the first lady's box, where the first lady sits for the State of the Union address, and I wondered if he still wished that I had finished medical school," he recalled.

Rep. Wu is a member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, which will play a crucial role in shaping the nation's education policy though the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Although he is not in medicine, he will have some influence on its practice as a member of the Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, which will look at health care reform. He is also on the Committee on Science subcommittees on Space and Aeronautics and Technology.

"The smallest public decision can make a profound difference in a person's life," he said. He encouraged audience members to run for office or get involved in local government. Rep. Wu also urged the audience to teach their children about their heritage. "In order to properly live, we have to have some anchor to where we've been."

After his speech, an audience member asked his opinion of the recent accidental bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Kosovo.

Rep. Wu, who spent part of his childhood in China, said, "People in China have difficulty understanding how a country as technologically advanced as the United States can make this kind of mistake. In technology, what you put in is what you get out, and humans are fallible. What I find disturbing is that the Chinese government kept the U.S. apologies and explanations off the air for several days.

"I hope the tragedy is not a wedge in a sundering relationship. In strong relationships, bad things happen, and you weather them." ◆

Ms. Tyler is assistant editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

Clarifications

In the story on the Library's fourth annual preservation workshop (LC *Information Bulletin*, May 1999, p. 103), the name of Library staffer Hans Wang was misspelled.

The cover story "The Work of Charles and Ray Eames" (LC *Information Bulletin*, May 1999, p. 104) neglected to mention C. Ford Peatross, curator of Architecture, Design and Engineering Projects in the Prints and Photographs Division, when crediting those who worked on the exhibition "Charles and Ray Eames: A Legacy of Invention." The exhibition is on display at the Library through Sept. 4. ◆

Marita V. Clance

Marita V. Clance

More than 200 middle school students participated in a series of readings and a question-and-answer session with Library staff in the Coolidge Auditorium April 26.

'Building a Nation of Readers'

A Bicentennial Series for Schoolchildren

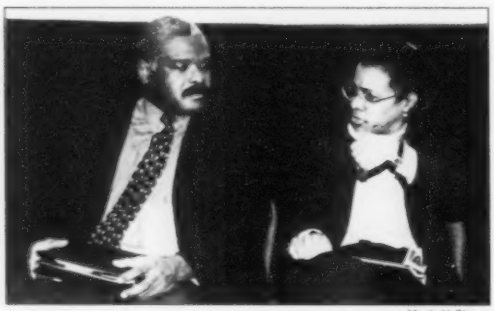
By CHARLYNN SPENCER PYNE

On the morning of April 26, the air in the Coolidge Auditorium was filled with the excitement of more than 200 fourth and fifth grade students. They came from Bolling Air Force Base, Brent Museum Magnet School, Capitol Hill Day School, Stuart Hobson Elementary School, Walker Jones Elementary School and Watkins Elementary School for, what Public Service Collections Director Diane Kresh called, "a different kind of history lesson."

Different it was, as the students' enthusiasm for learning transformed the program into an intellectual journey.

During a question-and-answer period before the program, the children peppered Ms. Kresh, who moderated the program, John Cole, director of the Center for the Book, and Marvin Kranz, American history specialist in the Manuscript Division, with inquiries about the Library. The students' interest varied from the number of visitors the Library receives annually to the number of books it houses, the size of the staff and the type of work they do.

Ms. Kresh welcomed the students, teachers and librarians, and introduced the Library specialists and curators who would introduce and present the selected readings, which focused on childhood experiences. The readings were accompanied by slides of historical photographs selected by Beverly Brannan, curator of photography in the Prints and Photographs Division.



Marita V. Clance

Norman Middleton of the Music Division and Adrienne Cannon of the Manuscript Division participate in the program.

Norman Middleton, concert producer for the Music Division, read excerpts from *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1849), in which the former slave, statesman and foremost African American spokesperson of the 19th century described how he learned to read. Mr. Middleton also read an 1859 letter from 10-year-old Annie Douglass to her father, Frederick, who had fled to England in the wake of John Brown's raid. Annie would die less than a year later, and Douglass would return to the United States to mourn her passing. Background information for these readings was provided by Adrienne Cannon, African American history and culture specialist in the Manuscript Division.

Marvin Kranz introduced Francis "Frank" French, who lived on East Capitol Street near the site of the Library's Jefferson Building during the mid-1800s. Lynn Schrichte, an accomplished local actress, read excerpts from French's 1850 journal, written when he was 12. French provided a "boy's-eye-view" of political events in mid-19th century Washington, including the deaths of former president Zachary Taylor and Sen. John C. Calhoun, and Henry Clay's famous speech in which he outlined the Compromise of 1850. French also wrote of visiting the Patent

Marita V. Clance

Office, the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress, and of the Fourth of July celebration at the Washington Monument.

Mary Wolfskill, head of the Reference and Reader Section in the Manuscript Division and a specialist on anthropologist Margaret Mead, introduced the audience to Mead and her studies of the nonliterate peoples of Oceania. Mead kept diaries throughout her life that were included in the 500,000 items that she donated to the Library upon her death in 1978. Ms. Schrichte read an excerpt from Mead's first diary, which she began in 1911 at the age of 9.

Mr. Kranz then introduced young Billy Gobitas, who wrote a polite but stubborn letter to the Minersville, Pa., school directors in 1935 explaining why he, as a Jehovah's Witness, could not salute the United States flag. Ms. Schrichte read Gobitas's letter, which ignited a lawsuit that went all the way to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court ruled against Gobitas in 1940, but reversed itself in 1943.

The final two readings centered on the "Little Rock Nine," whose integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., required President Eisenhower to send in federal troops. The first selection, introduced by Ms. Cannon and read by Mr. Middleton, was a 1957 letter from Daisy Bates, head of the Arkansas chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and a key figure in the integration of Central High, to Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP, about the treatment of the nine black students.

Mr. Middleton then read from a moving 1959 NAACP document, "The Ordeal of Minnie Jean Brown: One of the First Nine Negro Students to Attend Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas." Brown was expelled from Central High for retaliating against a litany of mistreatment from her classmates.

At the conclusion of this reading Mr. Middleton shared his personal experiences as one of nine students who integrated the all-white Walker Junior High School in Bradenton, Fla., in 1965.

The participants fielded the questions that followed.

"Mr. Middleton, did you get a better education by attending the white school?" a student asked.

"No. The facilities were better, and the books and materials were better, and they had a lot of resources and programs that the black school didn't have. But the teachers were no better, and they clearly did not want to teach me. They would ignore my raised hand and my questions. And I felt that they did not grade me fairly. I always had wonderful teachers in the black schools — who lived in my neighborhood, belonged to my church and truly cared about my education. No, my education was not better at the white school.

"Of all of the anthropologists in the world, why did Margaret Mead become famous?" asked another.

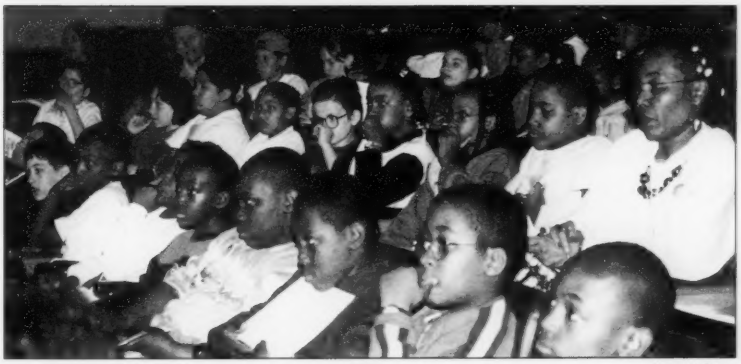
"Because of her personality and her outspokenness, and because that was her intention," said Ms. Wolfskill. "Unlike many in her field, she did not write just for scientific journals. Mead wrote for the general public. The first of her 23 books, *Coming of Age in Samoa* (1923), is still read by students."

"How long was the school year in 1850?"

Said Mr. Kranz: "According to French's journal, it was 11 months long. August was the only month of summer vacation."

It was past time for the children to return to school. But the "different kind of history lesson" was not yet over. Ms. Kresh urged the students to e-mail further questions to the "Building a Nation of Readers" Web address (**www.loc.gov/loc/kidslc**) and to check out the "Read More About It!" bibliography included in the program packets. ◆

Ms. Pyne is overseas operations program officer in the African/Asian Acquisitions and Overseas Operations Division.



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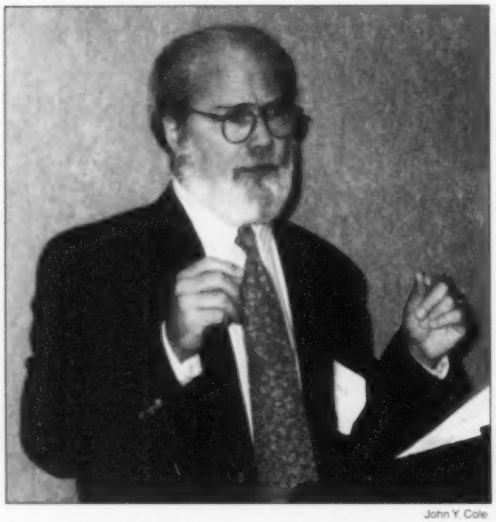


John Y. Cole

John Y. Cole

Nick Boke of the Vermont Center for the Book and Steven Johnson, editor of *www.feedmag.com* were two of the principal speakers at the symposium, "The Future of Reading in the Digital Age: A Conference of Lovers of the Printed Word."

News from the Center for the Book

Books and Reading in Our Future — Revisited

How is the Internet changing the world of books? How will the new electronic or "e-book" affect books and reading?

Since its creation in 1977, the Center for the Book has been a forum for discussing the "future" of books and reading. The first extensive look was a congressionally authorized study of "the changing role of the book in the future," a major Center for the Book project in 1983-84. (see LC *Information Bulletin*, April 30, 1984.) More recently, many of the same issues were revisited at a conference hosted by the Vermont Center for the Book. Several of the general conclusions, particularly regarding the durability of the book and the importance of reading, were similar. However it also was clear that recent transformations in technology, such as the arrival of the Internet, e-mail and the e-book, also have made issues concerning "the new age of the book" even more complex and perplexing than in the mid-1980s.

The 1998 Vermont Conference

"The Future of Reading in the Digital Age," a conference hosted by the Vermont Center for the Book, was held in Fairlee, Vt., on Nov. 2, 1998. About 100 people attended the meeting, which was organized by the Vermont center's Nick Boke.

The keynoter was Steven Johnson, editor of *www.feedmag.com*, an online magazine, and author of *Interface Culture: How New Technology Transforms the Way We Create and Communicate* (HarperCollins, 1997). His presentation was followed by perspectives from a panel consisting of Ed Morrow, co-owner of the Northshire Bookstore; Sue Quinn, author and chair of PEN New England; Chris Sachs, co-developer of the Softbook "e-book"; and Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole. Afternoon workshops focused on eight topics: "The Future of Memory," "Book Publishing in the Digital Age," "The Public Library in the Digital Age," "Paradigm Shifts and the Teaching of Reading," "The Future of the Imagination," "Newspapers in the Digital Age," "The Internet, Higher Education and the Digital Age" and "Read 2000: A Celebration."

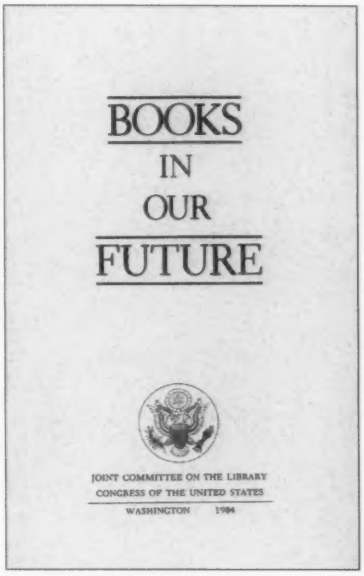
In his opening talk, Steven Johnson noted that "the book is bearing a pretty heavy load, with lots of both doomsaying and boosterism. The doomsayers are probably way off. It's more likely that the new media will supplement the old media, not kill them off. A hundred years from now, we'll probably be reading books in the same form."

There was general agreement, however, that there will be "downsides" to the changes ahead. As one participant said, "We shouldn't be

afraid to say that there will be losses, that some of the changes are things we will regret." One potential fear, about which there were differences of opinion, was that "electronic reading" would diminish society's ability to think deeply about issues. Mr. Boke noted that "styles of thinking and communication will be altered by the digital revolution, of necessity sped up and thinned out by the characteristics of the new media."

Many participants responded favorably to the discussion and exhibition of Softbook, a recently released "e-book," by Softbook marketing director Chris Sachs. He emphasized that this new technology was designed for specific uses and was not intended to replace the traditional book. E-books, he said, were "another way of delivering the written word."

Summarizing the conference, Mr. Boke felt that in spite of the perplexing issues raised, participants were "qualifiedly sanguine about the future of reading." Not only will the book not disappear, but "reading will remain a cultural requisite." In fact, "electronic technologies may actually increase access to information, and perhaps even extend the ranks of readers and thinkers."



The 1983-84 Library of Congress "Books in Our Future" Study

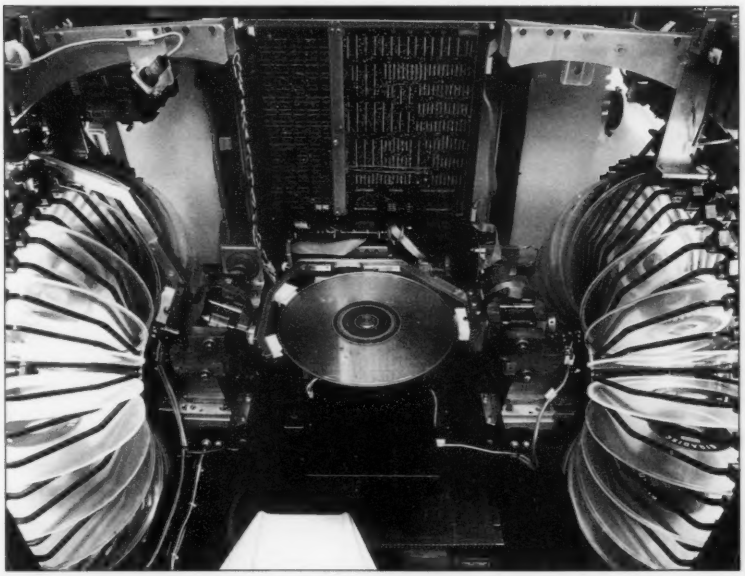
Research by consultants and discussions among the project's 21-person Advisory Committee resulted in two publications. The first, reflecting primarily the conclusions of then Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin, was published in 1984 as Senate Report 98-231. *Books in Our Future,* a 49-page document, is divided into two parts: "The Culture of the Book: Today and Tomorrow," and "A Manifold Program for a Massive Problem."

The report's central conclusion was: "Ours is a Culture of the Book. Our democracy is built on books and reading. This tradition is now threatened by the twin menaces of illiteracy and aliteracy [having the ability to read but no interest in doing so]. We must enlist new technologies with cautious enthusiasm in a national commitment to keep the Culture of the Book thriving. What we do about books and reading in the next decades will crucially affect our citizens' opportunities for enlightenment and self-improvement, their ability to share in the wisdom and delights of civilization, and their capacity for intelligent self-government."

The second publication, the 399-page *Books in Our Future: Perspectives and Proposals* was edited by John Y. Cole and published by the Government Printing Office in 1987. It contains individual statements from each of 21 advisers; lengthy excerpts from the report of the project consultants; background articles (mostly by Advisory Committee members); and excerpts from recent U.S. government reports.

In a recent report, Center for the Book Director Cole noted that the Books in Our Future project helped "by identifying key ideas around which our program has been shaped." These include the emphasis on the co-existence of books and new technologies; the development of national campaigns to raise awareness of the "twin menaces" of illiteracy and aliteracy; and the distinctions that must be drawn between knowledge and information and between different motivations for reading. Finally, he noted that the creation of the center's partnership networks grew directly out of Part Two ("A Manifold Program for a Massive Problem") of the Senate Report.

Single copies of the 1984 Senate report, "Books in Our Future," are available free from the Center for the Book as long as supply lasts. Requests should be sent to the Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington, DC 20540-4920. Requests should be in writing or via e-mail: cfbook@loc.gov. ◆



This "jukebox," which stored and retrieved 12-inch Library of Congress digital optical disks, was state-of-the-art technology when the "Books in Our Future" study was published in 1984.

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